

COMMENT OF THE DAY

The Queen's Message

THE QUEEN gave to her subjects throughout the British Commonwealth and Empire a Christmas message that was as touching as it was inspiring. The simplicity and sincerity of her sentiments could not fail to stimulate a responsive echo in the hearts and minds of her radio audience. Like her father, and her grandfather, she devoted much of her message to a re-dedication to duty. It was in many ways a memorable talk. It was her first Christmas Day broadcast as Queen Elizabeth the Second; again because she emphasized the importance of the family life at this time of the year; further because she gave a new significance to the world's greatest family of nations—the British Commonwealth. Her Majesty's subjects, in Hongkong and all other parts of the world, could not fail to be impressed by the earnestness and warmth of the message. None was forgotten: her greetings included not only British subjects at home and abroad, but men and women of other nations, especially those who "are serving their country at this time." The reference was a delightfully personal note which set the key to a broadcast that will be long remembered.

FROM it can be learnt how old lessons which time and circumstances tend to remove from memory. Her Majesty once again publicly dedicated herself to duty; she acknowledged her destiny of devotion to selfless interests; she asked of her people but one thing—their prayers to give her wisdom and strength to fulfill honourably the heavy task imposed upon her of serving and ruling them. The Queen's message was a vivid reminder that the head of the British royal family is more than a monarch; that the life which has to be led is one of duty, and heavily burdened with responsibility. Next June the Queen will formally dedicate her life to the service of the people over which she reigns. But the pomp and circumstance of that centuries-old ceremony will not outshine in the hearts of her people the generous and spontaneous dedication contained in her Christmas message. For it Her Majesty's subjects are grateful, and from it can be derived much-needed inspiration.

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Now—fly Pan American direct to Rangoon! New Super-6 Clippers now serve Rangoon from Hong Kong and Bangkok. Link Rangoon with Pan American ports throughout the Orient.

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PAN AMERICAN WORLD'S MOST EXPERIENCED AIRLINE

STALIN-EISENHOWER MEETING POSSIBLE

"Favourable View" Of Proposal Taken By Soviet Leader

Washington, Dec. 26.

General Dwight Eisenhower's incoming Republican administration today declared that it would receive "seriously and sympathetically" any concrete proposals from Marshal Stalin for "living in peace."

Mr John Foster Dulles, who will be the new Secretary of State when the administration takes office on January 20, gave the first Eisenhower reaction to Mr Stalin's expressed willingness to meet General Eisenhower in order to promote peace.

The Soviet leader's views were being studied with interest, Mr Dulles said after a telephone talk today with President-elect Eisenhower. They discussed publication in the New York Times yesterday of replies to questions put to Mr Stalin by its diplomatic correspondent.

In his replies Mr Stalin said he was "agreeable to co-operate" because the Soviet Union was interested in ending the Korean war. The Soviet leader took a "favourable view" of the proposals that the possibility of a meeting between himself and General Eisenhower should be examined.

Mr John Foster Dulles made this statement:

"I have read with interest the published account of Mr Stalin's views. If these mean that Mr Stalin has concrete proposals to make to the new Administration after it takes office, we can rest assured that they will be seriously and sympathetically received."

"Diplomatic or United Nations channels of communication are always available for such purposes and for exchanges of views designed to find ways to promote peace and international goodwill."

The normal diplomatic channels for contact between Washington and Moscow are the Soviet Embassy here and the American Embassy there. At the United Nations, Soviet and United States delegations have a constant opportunity of quick informal contact.

THE REPLIES

Stalin's replies to questions submitted by Mr James Reston, diplomatic correspondent of the New York Times, were broadcast by Moscow radio in the style according to the Soviet leader's pronouncements.

Marshal Stalin had said he would take a "favourable view" of proposals for diplomatic negotiations with representatives of Eisenhower's Administration to examine the possibility of a meeting between the two leaders.

Asked whether he would co-operate in any new diplomatic measure to end the Korean war, Marshal Stalin said he "was agreeable to co-operate" because the Soviet

Union was interested in ending the war.

He reiterated his belief that the United States and Russia could "live in peace with each other."

The State Department spokesman doubted whether there would be comments from the Truman Administration on any question affecting the policies of the next President.

The New York Times said editorially today that "Marshal Stalin must match words with deeds before his offer could be taken seriously."

"There is little reason to hope that they (Stalin's words) represent anything more than just a psychological warfare manoeuvre," the phoney Soviet peace offensive, and another attempt to deceive the world," the paper said.

It added that Marshal Stalin's pronouncement should be studied carefully then, it warranted, diplomatic soundings should be made to ascertain what he meant.

The editorial stated that Russia had wrecked the Indian plan for Korea and had sabotaged five years of effort to restore Austria as an independent nation. It had also rejected every essential preliminary to a five-power meeting to draft a German peace treaty.

The New York Herald Tribune, in an editorial comment, said: "At the worst, Stalin has had his little Christmas joke. At the most, he has emphasized anew the shape of the dilemma which men of goodwill seek to resolve."

REACTIONS

Paris Dec. 26.

French diplomatic quarters today expressed the hope that any meeting between American and Soviet representatives to prepare for a Stalin-Eisenhower meeting would pave the way for a wider meeting of the big powers.

While welcoming Stalin's statement that he was "favourable" to a preliminary meeting between representatives, they pointed out that peace was not a matter for two men or two countries but required the co-operation of all the people of the world.

They also welcomed the prospect of a decrease in world tension but pointed out that the French believe this tension was the result of world war activity initiated by, rather than against, the Soviet Union.

These quarters said Stalin's statement differed from statements made in Soviet newspapers.

They welcomed Stalin's reply that the Soviet Union wanted to end the Korean war but regretted that he had failed to

give instructions to that effect to the Soviet delegation at the United Nations.

BRUSSELS VIEW

Brussels Dec. 26.

The Belgian Government has never changed its view that every chance to negotiate with the Soviet Union should be seized, a Government source said here today.

Although all newspapers carried the news of the Stalin interview with better headlines, they made no comment.

The Government source said "Foreign Minister Van Zeeland has said often enough that if Russia makes one step in our direction we should advance two steps to try to meet her."

REITER

Geneva, Dec. 26.

Commenting on the possibility of a meeting between Eisenhower and Stalin, the Tribune de Geneve said the basis of any understanding must be reciprocal confidence.

"But this does not exist," the paper said. "It never has existed as far as the Russians are concerned: the Americans lost it after the good old days of Teheran and Yalta. To re-establish it needs action and not words."

"The Soviet Marshal can doubtless meet the new American President. But one would be surprised—and very happily surprised—if anything came from the meeting other than a new and universal disillusionment."

REITER

PRIDE OF PLACE

London, Dec. 26.

The first "Iron Curtain" comment on Stalin's statement appeared today in the Communist journal "For a Lasting Peace and for a People's Democracy" published in Bucharest which called it "another crushing blow" to warmongers.

The questions and answers were given pride of place on the front-page of the journal, according to a Rumanian news agency message received in London.

According to the Albanian news agency, all Albanian newspapers today carried frontpage reports of Stalin's answers.

Throughout last night Moscow Radio repeated the questions and answers but did not comment.

Sofia Radio spoke of "The joy aroused among Bulgarian workers by the message of the possibility of preserving peace between the United States and the Soviet Union."

Feining Radio also broadcast the text of the questions and answers—REITER

MP's Driving Offence

London, Dec. 26.

Mr Ernest Albert John Davies, 50, Labour member of Parliament for East Enfield, was today fined £20 at West London, after pleading guilty to driving under the influence of drink in the early hours of Christmas morning.

He was also ordered to pay three guineas costs and disqualified from driving for one year.

Mr Davies was Joint Under-Secretary of the Foreign Office in the 1950 administration and has been Chairman of the transport group of Parliament in the Labour Party.

Police said Davies drove on the wrong side of the street in Kensington and his car struck a lamp post.—REITER

Churchill To Visit America In January

London, Dec. 26.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill officially announced today he will visit New York and Washington at the beginning of January for talks with General Eisenhower and President Truman.

The Churchill-Eisenhower informal talks will cover defence matters, including the President-elect's recent visit to Korea, and Britain's exclusion from ANZUS—defence pact in the Pacific.

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers' recent Economic Conference here will also be discussed informally.

This is a non-political visit which does not in any way rule out the projected British official mission to America in February or March to discuss world issues.

The announcement from Mr Churchill's official residence, No. 10 Downing Street, said he would leave by the "Queen Mary" on December 31 to spend about a fortnight in Jamaica.

INFORMAL TALKS

It added: "On the way, he will stay two or three days in New York with Mr Bernard Baruch. He will meet Mr Eisenhower, during his visit, for informal talks."

"He will also visit Washington to pay his respects to President Truman."

The announcement said that a house had been placed at Mr Churchill's disposal in Jamaica by Sir Harold Mitchell.

The Prime Minister would visit the Governor, Sir Hugh Foot at Kingston.

Mr Churchill is 76.

Political quarters understand that he will discuss the world situation with President-elect Eisenhower and will also inform him of the work of the recent Commonwealth Economic Conference.

Mr Churchill will take with him only his wife and his son-in-law and daughter.

These informal talks do not prejudice the possibility of a further visit to America in the spring.

Gen. Eisenhower's recent journey to Korea is likely to be discussed.—REITER

COLONY FREE OF VIOLENT CRIME DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Hongkong's underworld appeared to have declared a truce during the Christmas holidays, as reports of crimes of violence have been made to the Police since Thursday.

Traffic accidents of a serious nature which were invariably connected with holidays also appeared to have been reduced to the minimum. A check made with the Stations on both sides of the harbour revealed nothing alarming.

The Fire Brigade also appeared to have a lean time. Except for an odd chimney fire, the engines remained idle most of the time in the Stations.

However, from the Lo To Man village in Kowloon, City last night, a fight between two rival "gangs" in which over 100 people were estimated to have been involved took place. The Police were called out and despite persistent warnings to disperse the fight continued until the Police opened fire. A man who was wounded in the leg was this morning reported to be progressing favourably. Over 20 persons have been detained for inquiries.



Over 2,000 delegates, claiming to represent about 100 countries, gather in Vienna's great concert hall to launch the latest in a series of Communist-sponsored "peace congresses". The main speech was made by Professor Joliot-Curie, the French Atomic scientist and Chairman of the world "Peace Council". He is seen here speaking at the opening of the Rally.—London Express.

Nuns Released By Reds, Arrive In Hongkong

Unexpected arrivals in Hongkong by train yesterday afternoon were two Canadian nuns who faced a Communist mob trial in Canton on December 2 last year and were sentenced to five years' imprisonment for "neglect, inhuman treatment and murder" of babies at the Holy Infant Orphanage there.

Released after one year and 24 days in a Red prison were Sister Alphonse du Redempteur (Antoinette Couvrette) of Joliette, Quebec, and Sister Marie Germaine (Germaine Gravel) of Three Rivers, Quebec. Sister Alphonse, aged 41, had been in charge of the Orphanage, and Sister Marie Germaine, aged 43, her chief assistant.

Three other nuns from the same orphanage who were tried at the same time and were ordered to be expelled reached Hongkong in late February this year.

The trial, which was broadcast, was heard in Hongkong. It caused a great sensation throughout the world. It took place before a mob of 5,000 people, and violent demonstrations were made against the five nuns. It was alleged that they were responsible for the deaths of over 2,000 babies in their care.

Sisters Alphonse and Marie Germaine had just been saying their prayers in their cells in prison. It is on Christmas Day when Communist prison officials suddenly sent for them and told them that the remainder of their prison sentences had been commuted, but that they would be expelled from the country.

TEARFUL SCENES

They were headed back their clean nuns' habits which had been taken from them before the trial, and told they would be leaving Canton yesterday. They were put aboard the train for Hongkong yesterday morning and taken under guard to the Hongkong border. They crossed into British territory shortly after the lunch hour, not having eaten since 4 p.m. yesterday when Red prison guards aroused them to prepare for their departure.

Due to the short notice of their release, only a small group of nuns and priests were at the railway station to receive them, when their train pulled into Tsimshutsui late yesterday afternoon. There were tearful scenes as they descended from their carriages to be greeted with warm affection, particularly by members of their own order, the Congregation of the Holy Immaculate Conception.

Both nuns looked thin and pale. It was learned that they were not feeling well after their ordeal. Sister Marie Germaine, in particular, had been seriously ill a few months back and could then hardly walk. They were whisked off to hospital direct from the station.

The few words which they had the time to say were that they were never badly treated in prison and that they had never been given any labour of any kind to do.

Christmas Air Disaster 23 PASSENGERS KILLED

Teheran, Dec. 26.

An Iranian Airways plane crashed in a dense fog last night a few miles from Teheran airport, killing 19 Iranians and four Americans. Only two passengers survived the Christmas night tragedy.

The plane, inbound from Isfahan, 210 miles south of Teheran, circled for a landing, bounced several hundred yards in an open field, then broke apart. There was small fire that burned out quickly. Investigators believe the pilot mistook the altitude in attempting a blind landing.

The dead Americans were: Miss Cecile Ann Demoley, 20, Point Four public health field nurse stationed at Shiraz; Mr. Blakemore, 38, Great Neck, Long Island, New York, a high school teacher making a study of the Middle East on a Ford Foundation grant; Mrs. Blakemore, 37, wife of the high school teacher; A Master Sergeant of the US military mission stationed at Shiraz.

All the other passengers in the plane were Iranians. All members of the crew were killed.

TWO SURVIVORS

The survivors were: Adil Young, 70, and a Point Four engineer, stationed at Mazhar. Both suffered minor injuries. Two others who were not killed outright died after being taken to Teheran hospital.

The crash area was about five miles south of Teheran airport. The pilot had avoided dangerous mountains north of Teheran but crashed after turning south.

On Dec. 23, 1951, an Egyptian airliner crashed into the mountains near the Red Sea, killing Dr. Harvey G. Bunt, Director of the US Point Four Programme, and 20 others, including seven Americans. That was the worst plane crash in Iran's history.

Last night's crash was only the second with casualties in Iranian Airways' six years of operation.—Associated Press.

Freighter Runs Ashore

Sydney, Dec. 26.

The Australian coastal freighter Morrin, carrying a valuable collection of French modern art, went aground on Christmas Day on the East coast of Tasmania. First failed to refloat the 549-ton vessel today.

The weather was moderate and the crew of 20 was in no immediate danger. The cargo, insured for \$200,000, was being taken from Sydney to Hobart, Tasmania, for public exhibition.—Associated Press.

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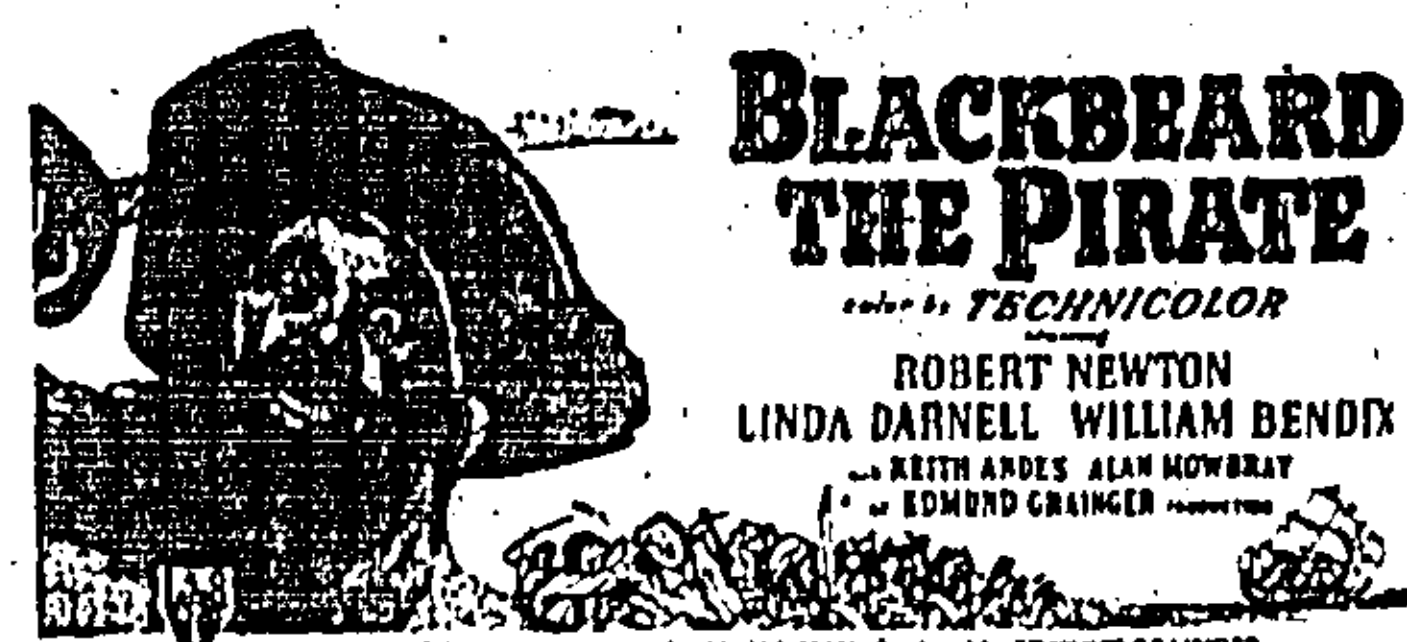
KING'S SPECIAL MORNING SHOW
TO-MORROW AT 11.30 a.m.

M-G-M's High, Wide and Handsome Musical!
"TEXAS CARNIVAL"

SHOWING AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

TO-DAY **KING'S MAJESTIC**

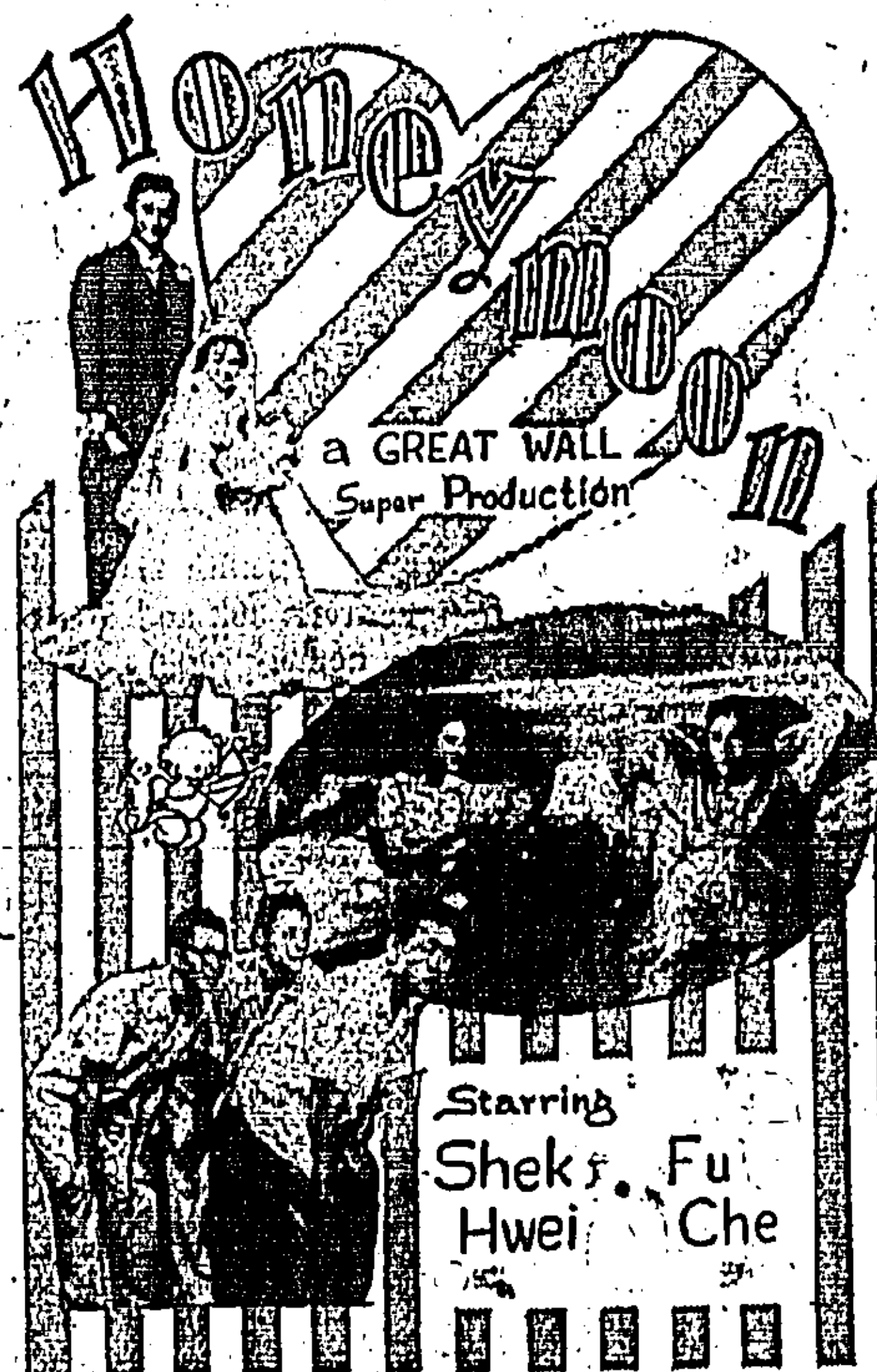
The thunder of their plundering
shook the earth, the seas...the sky!



TO-MORROW AT MAJESTIC AT 12 NOON
RKO's TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS



★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★
AT 2.30, 3.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



Starring
Shek Fu
Hwei Che



★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★

Owing to Length of Picture Please Note Change of Times:
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.



TO-MORROW MORNING SHOW
ROXY: At 12.00 Noon BROADWAY: At 12.30 p.m.
"Newest Terrytoon
Technicolor Cartoon Programme"



At Reduced Prices

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



★ THE CASE OF THE VANISHING PANTHIME ★

LONDON.
TWO young actresses—Hy Hazell and Vanessa Lee—have been carrying a load of responsibility on their shoulders (and shapely legs) this Christmas. They are the West End's only Principal Boys—at a time when pantomime, as we have known it for generations, is struggling for survival. And it is the principal boys—not the star comica—who must project the real spirit of pantomime.

Yes, Central London is down to a mere brace of pantos this year—Jack and Jill at the Casino, Dick Whittington at the Palladium. That is all our top theatrical managements are prepared to risk, in an age when children expect to be wooed with the stupendous, the colossal—and the expenditure which such descriptions entail.

That is why approximately £100,000 is being lavished on two "pantomimes"—Jack and the Beanstalk (Empress Hall) and The Sleeping Beauty (Empire Pool, Wembley). Why we are now witnessing polite cut-throat competition between three circuses—Olympia, Earl's Court and Harringay—with Tom Arnold claiming a total cost of £150,000 on the Harringay show alone.

The big money is invested in the suburbs. Only if producers act wisely and quickly this year will traditional pantomime retain its hold in the West End.

See what has happened to some of the other supposedly hardy annuals—Charley's Aunt, The Private Secretary, When Knights Were Bold.

London sees them no more; children born into a TV world have it seems more advanced tastes. Peter Pan, being immortal, and Where the Rainbow Ends (this year at the Prince's alone survive. In place of the others—magical shows and TV's Muffin the Mule.

TESTING TIME

★ Now I warn West End pantomime producers: their testing-time is come. Let them give the children all the glitter, sparkle and spectacle they expect from fairyland. Spend more money on this than on the comica. Comedians are—well, us—and with the children—all the year round; fairyland belongs to Christmas, and it is the one thing a theatre can do more persuasively than TV.

Above all, make the story the most—not the least—important feature of the show; and keep the story the children have read and know by heart.

SIGN—OF—THE—TIMES

FOOTNOTE: Comedienne Lucille Gage is the "Dame" in

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WEST END TWO CHALLENGE THE ICE AGE

Claude Langdon's ice version of Jack and the Beanstalk. Miss Gage has spent the past six months learning to skate, it was one way of ensuring herself a star part at Christmas.

ON... OFF

★ We seem to have been all wrong about those film starlets. Just over a fortnight ago, 23-year-old Susan Shaw stepped on to a West End stage for the first time—and astonished everyone with a punchy, point-scoring performance as a juvenile delinquent in The Blue Lamp.

Now Miss Shaw finds herself out of a job. The Blue Lamp has been the surprise flop of the season, the now girl, who thought she was established for a six months' run, will start fighting again for recognition.

TM TOUGH

"Never mind, I'm tough—and time is on my side," she says. Time is also on the side of her fellow, ex-starlet, Diana Dors, who, when we last saw her, was laughing at on the screen, showing her first signs of a comeback. She gets her second chance in the American comedy-thriller, Remains To Be Seen, which opens in London soon after Christmas.

In their race for stage success, the two girls are running closely; at the moment Diana looks like passing the post first. I note that Jack Hylton is the presenter of both plays; he obviously believes in Mr Rank's former starlets.

CALLING MAGNANI

★ Anna Magnani, Italy's No. 1 screen exponent of sultriness, may soon be going to Hollywood. Tennessee Williams wants her to play the heroine in a film version of his latest drama, The Rose Tattoo. Mr Williams, claims Magnani, had her in mind when he wrote the story. Since his new heroine is modelled firmly in the "Streets" convention, I see his point.



SHOW TALK
by
HAROLD CONWAY



WHITTINGTON: Vanessa Lee



JACK: Hy Hazell

But what has happened to the London stage production of The Rose Tattoo? It was first projected a year ago. Since then the Tennessee Williams cult has met with a check—Summer and Smoke was a comedown. West End flop. The Tattoo will now wait, I gather, until British audiences become Streetcar minded once more.

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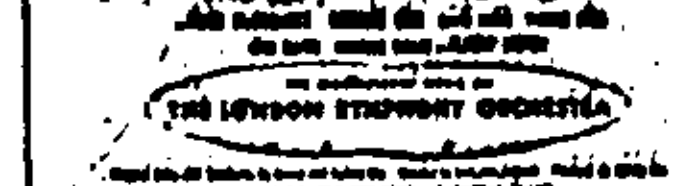
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Phone 34115

— TO-DAY ONLY —

AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



JAMES MASON ANN TODD
The Seventh Seal



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29. M. Sons of the Musketeers
30. T. The Girl in the White
31. W. Caravan
32. S. Singin' in the Rain
33. S. The Life & Love Story of Beethoven



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QUEEN'S 5 SHOWS TOMORROW "THE MERRY WIDOW"

Extra Performance At
11.30 A.M.



At 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m. At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

TO-DAY



IT'S LIFE, LOVE AND THE PURSUIT OF LANA!

M-G-M's NEW SAUCY SUMPTUOUS TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL

Lana Turner

The Merry Widow

Fernando Lamas

COMING SOON

The Sensational Italian Comedy of the Year!

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20th Century-Fox Film

At Reduced Prices

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TO-MORROW MORNING SHOW
AT 11.30 A.M.

VARIETY PROGRAMME OF
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and interesting SUZAN BALL

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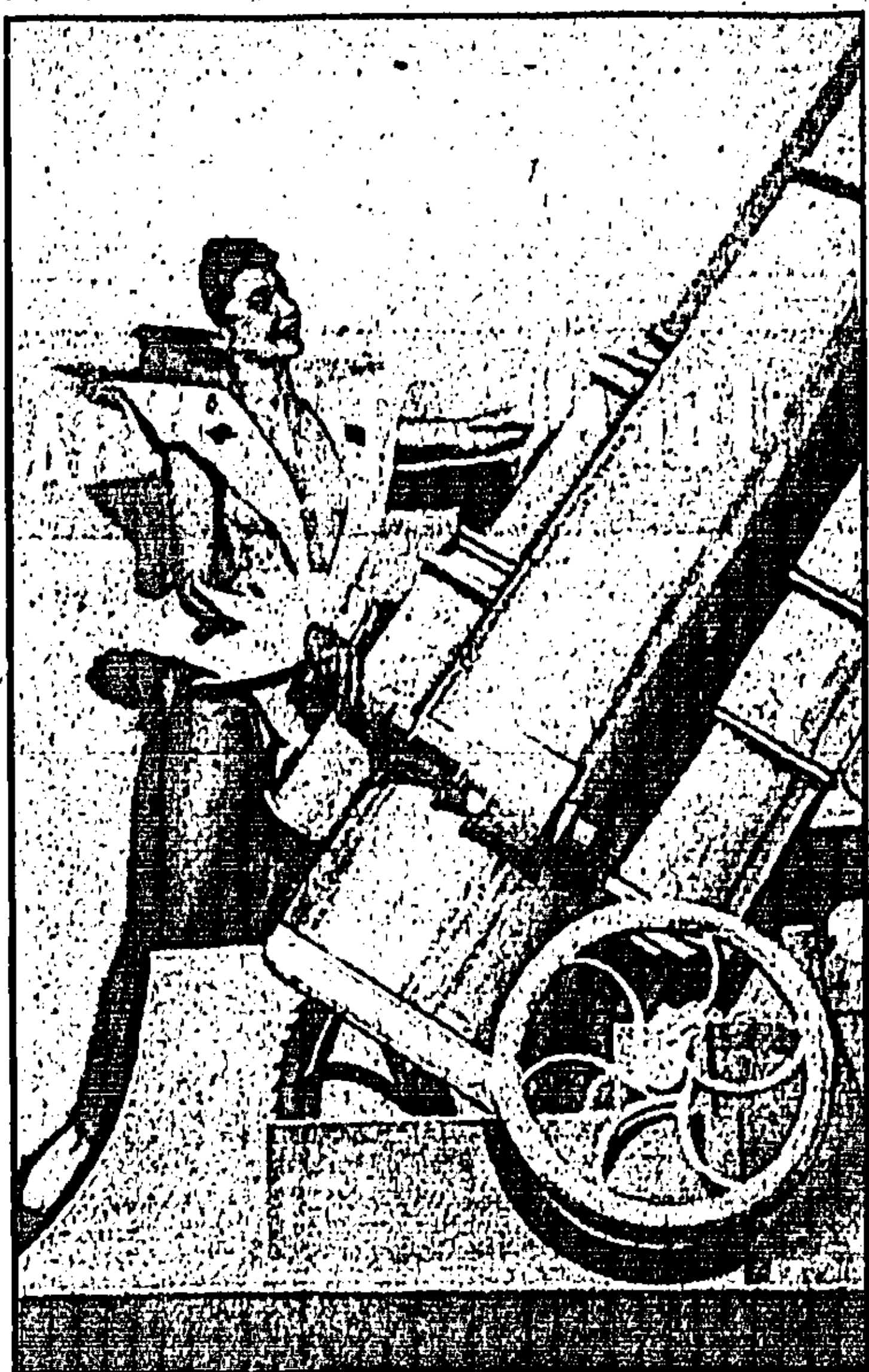
GREAT WORLD

AT 12.30 P.M.

WALT DISNEY'S COLOUR CARTOON PROGRAMME

At Reduced Prices—Cinema \$1.50, Seat \$1.00, Tax Incl.

HOMESIDE PICTORIAL



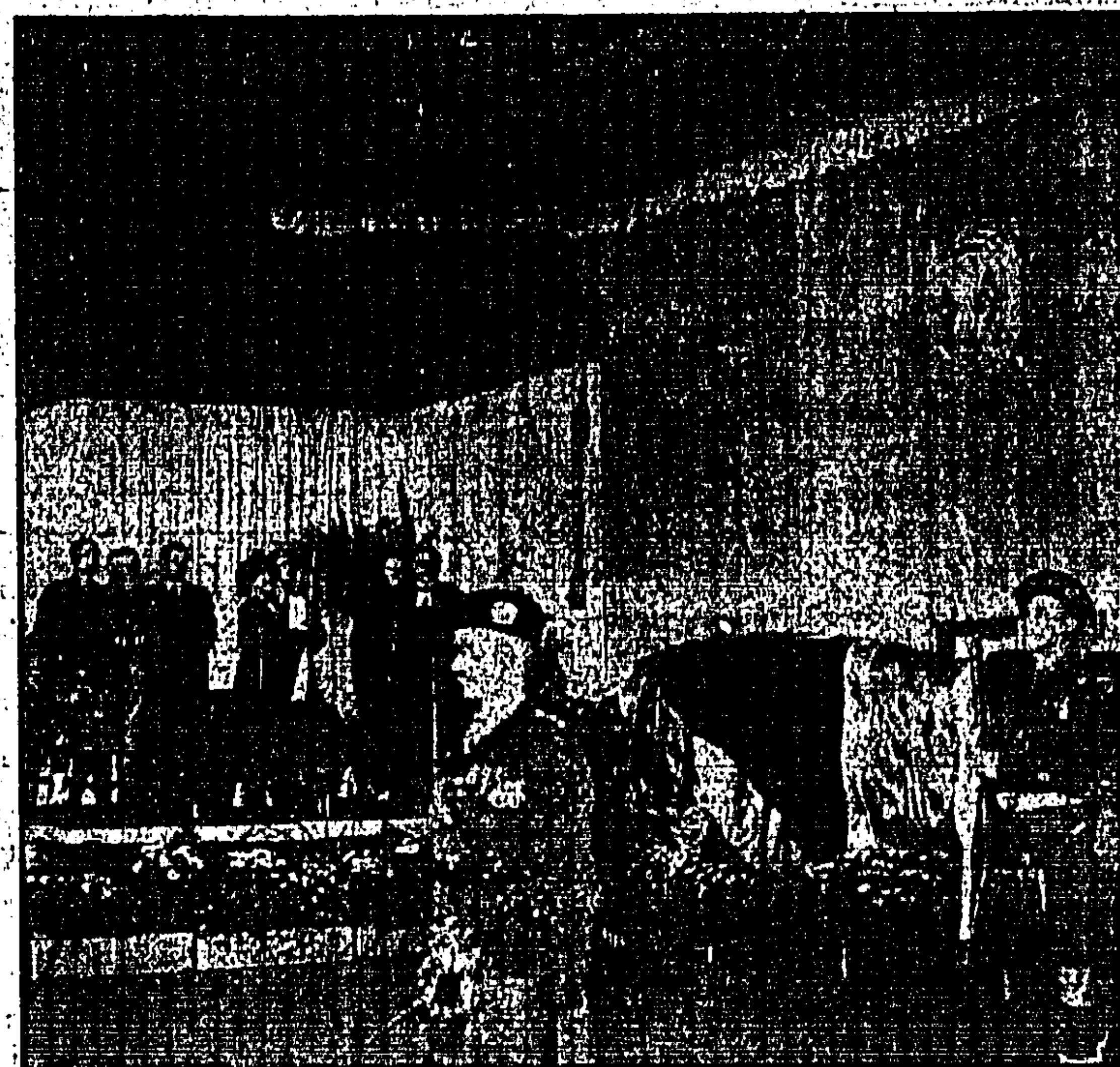
LOVELY 17-year-old Windmill girl Carole Logan as she appears in "The Professor Gets Hep." Carole arrived in London from Glasgow on a Monday, had an audition on Tuesday, began rehearsing Wednesday and appeared in the show on the following Monday — a record, even for the Windmill. (Central)



THE Duke of Edinburgh clutches his bow tie and looks anxiously at the ring while promoter Jack Solomons leans across to speak to the person on the Duke's right. Photo taken at the charity promotion at Harringay where Johnny Williams, British heavyweight title holder, knocked out Werner Wiegand of Luxembourg. (Express)



AT a reception, given at the Guildhall, London, by the High Commissioners of Commonwealth countries, Mrs. Wijeyaratne, wife of the High Commissioner for Ceylon (left), exchanges Eastern greetings with the Maharajah of Kutch. (Express)



HM the Queen Mother unveiling the 1939/45 Regimental war memorial of the London Scottish, of which she is Honorary Colonel. Colonel R. J. L. Ogilby, Colonel of the Regiment, is seen on her right.



THE aircraft carrier Theseus returned to Portsmouth early this month after service in Korea. Some of the fliers of Royal Navy Air Squadrons 802 and 825 on the flight deck certainly look happy to be home.



MISS Caroline Kirkwood (left), Mr. Billy Wallace and Miss Fiona Campbell-Walter play hoopla at the Invalid Children's Aid Association dinner dance held at the Savoy Hotel in London. (Express)



SEA Cadet Allan Spiller, aged 12, has his black eye, which he received in a boxing tournament, attended to by nurse Marion Saunders before going up to present a bouquet to the Duchess of Gloucester on her arrival at a charity film premiere. (Express)



PICTURED at his piano is 60-year-old Mark Antony of Chelsea, pianist and composer. He is plagued by jokers who find his name in the London telephone directory and who ring him up to inquire about Cleopatra. (Express)



WHEN the animals for the Bertram Mills Circus arrived in London, it was not without some trouble. It was found that the cement floor for the elephants was not hard enough, and they had to be returned to the train until it could be reinforced.

NANCY Fountain of Youth

By Ernie Bushmiller



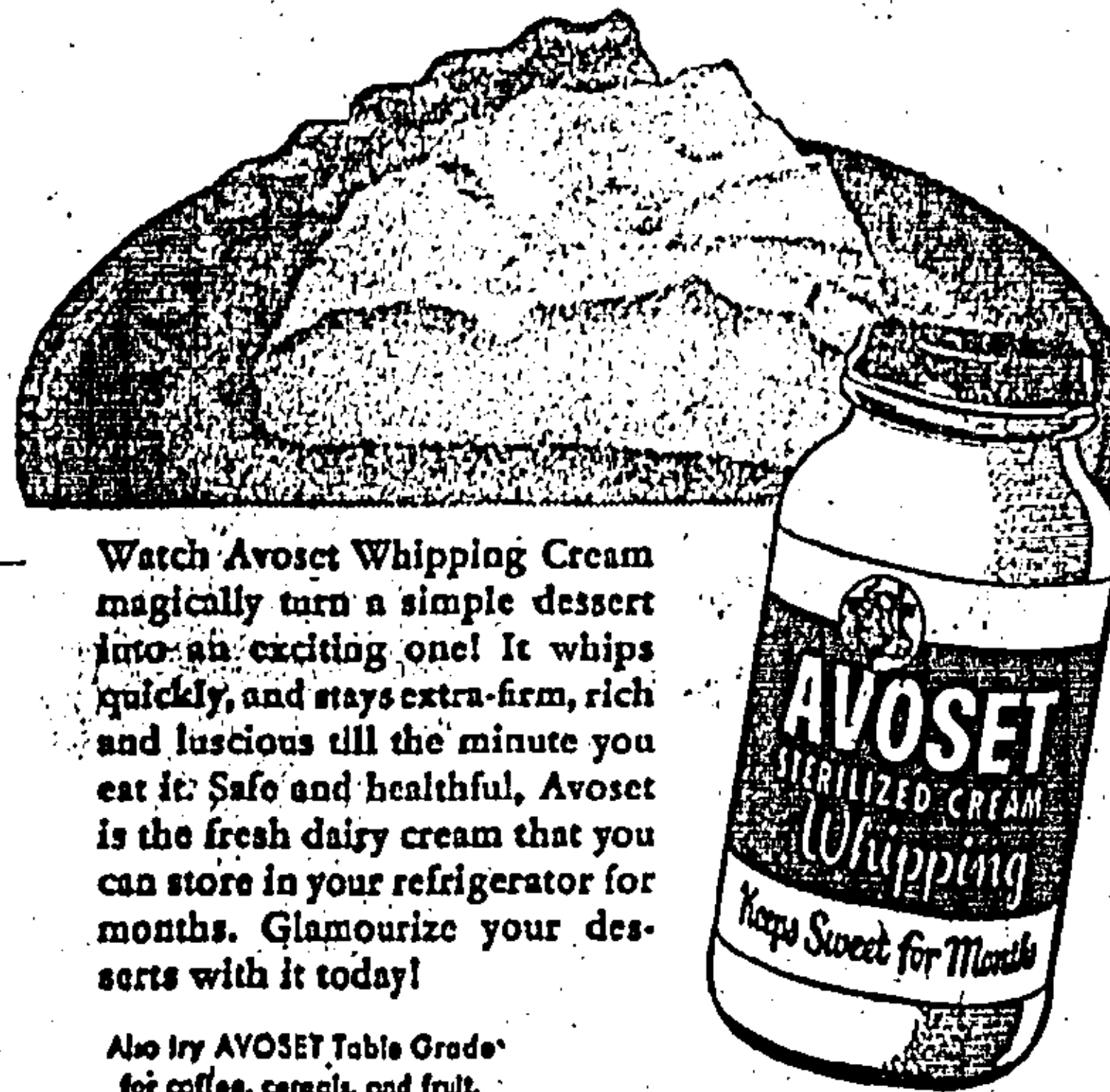


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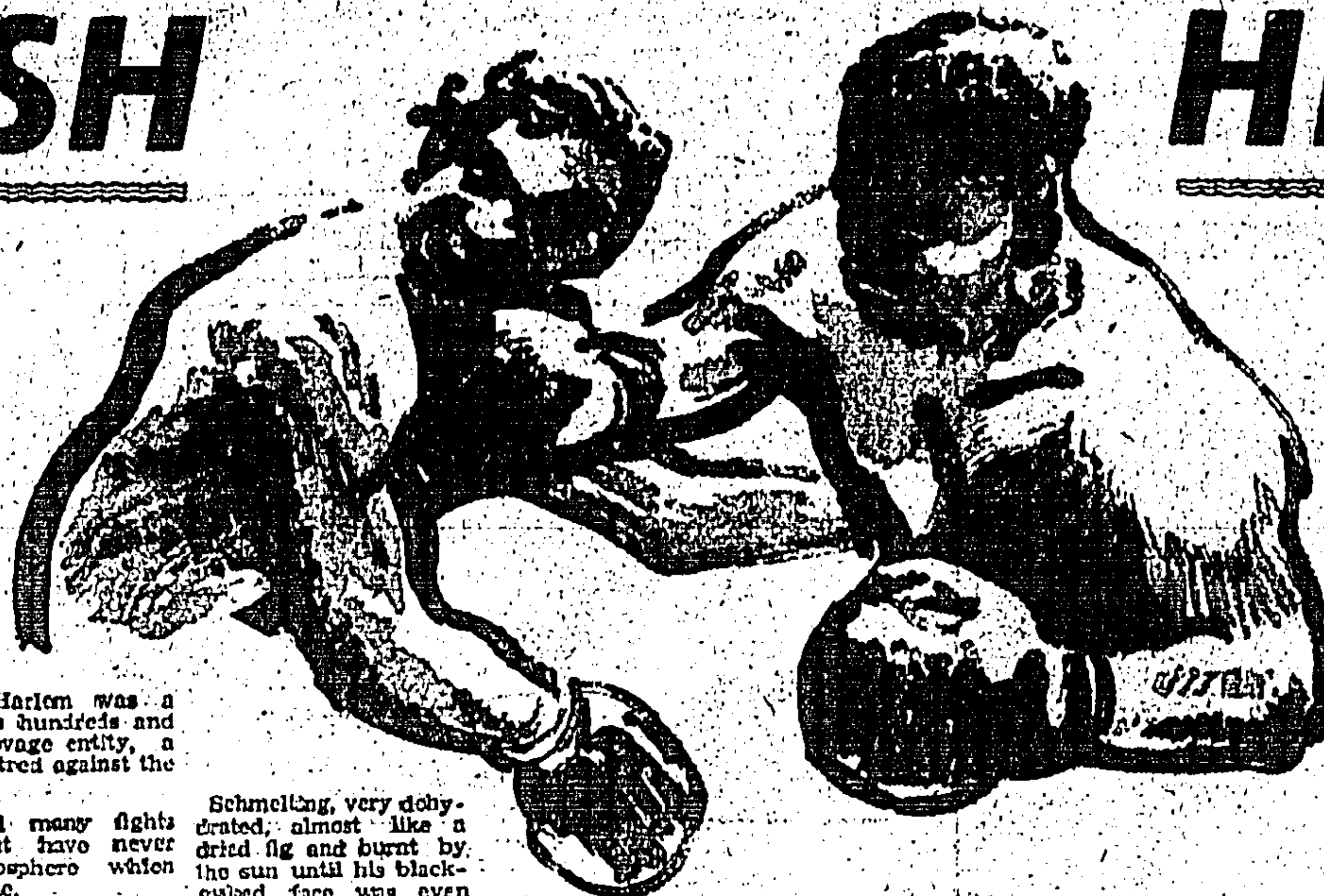
HONG KONG AIRWAYS
AND
NORTHWEST AIRLINES

First round of a punch-packed series by **PETER WILSON**

With Illustrations by **ROBB**

SMASH

HITS



LOUIS V. SCHMELING

IN the 25 years I have been watching boxing—thousands of fights at scores of ring-sides in dozens of countries—there is one night which stands out, filmed in colour, in my memory.

It was June 22, 1938—the night when Joe Louis became undisputed heavy-weight champion of the world. I stress undisputed because although Louis had technically won the title from game Jim Braddock exactly a year earlier at Chicago, there was still one man standing between the sleek young Negro and universal recognition. Max Schmeling, the German.

Up to that June night Louis had had 39 fights. He had triumphed in 38 of them, winning inside the distance 32 times.

But there was one blot on the 24-year-old's magnificent record. Max Schmeling, the German. For in 1936, when Louis was only 22, Schmeling, a 1-10 underdog, had pounded Louis and left him with his head pillowed on crossed arms, which were supported by the centre rope—almost like a hermit in solitary prayer among the screaming thousands.

Destiny night

SCHMELING took the best part of 12 rounds to achieve this astonishing annihilation, and the witnesses in the fight racket shook their heads as they streamed away from the arena saying that a youngster would never be able to survive such a beating and come back with his resilience unimpaired.

But Louis had survived it. He had come back. He had won 11 more fights, nine of them inside the distance, while Schmeling, nearly nine years the older, had scored three wins.

Now it was the night of the Negro's destiny. There was much more to this than a million-dollar prize fight. It was a clash of ideologies. Hitler had sent a cable to Schmeling congratulating him in advance for winning back sports' supreme prize for the Aryan race.

In the "black belts" of the great American cities, Chicago—where Louis had won the championship—Philadelphia, Detroit, where he had lived for so long, and in the Deep South, millions of coloured men and women looked on Louis as someone who represented their race against Hitler.

New York's Harlem was a black fortress, its hundreds and thousands one savage entity, a jungle pulsing hatred against the "Superman".

I have attended many fights in America, but have never known an atmosphere which paralleled this one.

There was no pretence at impartiality. No pious hope that the better man might win. As the fight approached on the night of June 22, the huge Yankee Stadium lay like a stone galleon at anchor. Seventy thousand "admissionists" had paid 1,015,012 dollars to see this "grudge" fight. You could almost hang your hat on the tension in the air.

The red exit signs gleamed like the port light of a ship. High above, the batteries of electric bulbs gleamed brighter than the stars. The night was like black cotton wool pressing down on the cauldron of humanity and somewhere a man went grey and collapsed, and died as the heat increased and the strain of waiting mounted.

The roar of the crowd went through the packed, sweating thousands like a wave surging, and broke on the edge of the ring. The two men seemed to be swimming down the spotlights which lighted the aisles leading to the canvas square. They were in their corners surrounded by handlers, whites for Schmeling, blacks for Louis.

Only 54lb. more than Schmeling.

All the puppy fat had gone from his face. Instead of the normal, impassive, moon-faced look, his features seemed hard and carved, and the thick lips had completely disappeared so that his mouth was a scar.

The introduction of past champions was over now. The handlers had completed their last fussy tasks and referee Arthur Donovan called the two men together for the final instructions. His voice came metallically through the microphone slung over the ring.

Schmeling, very dehydrated, almost like a dried fig and burnt by the sun until his black-ruined face was even darker than Louis's coffee-au-lait complexion, walked over to his opponent's corner. He wore a black-and-white check dressing-gown, and he tapped Louis on the back so that they could shake hands.

It was only when Louis turned that one realised just what he had put into his preparation for this fight of his life. He weighed 14st. 24lb.—the lightest he was ever to weigh for the rest of his fighting career—and

so that it would pick up the sound of the punches. They go back to their corners, their robes are removed, the handlers disappear into the darkness outside, the ring like a cave, returning to their caves, the black man and the white stand poised, champions of two worlds, waiting for the bell which will release them like greyhounds from the slips.

It sounded, but so faintly that neither fighter was sure whether to go forward. Then, after hesitating like sprinters caught on a false start, they moved towards each other. The contrast in their styles was immediate. Schmeling was like an old sporting print with his right leg crooked under him, his left arm fully extended, and his right fist held high by his shoulder, almost like a man drawing a long bow.

Two—lefts
THEN Louis attacked. Two lefts rammed the German's dark head back between his shoulders. From my ring-side seat I swear I saw astonishment, mingled with apprehension, on Schmeling's face. Louis's punches were like ticks. Left hook and right, left hook and right again, and Schmeling, who looked stiff and awkward with that ungainly stance, was already hurt.

He gumbled on his own right—that straight right which had won him the first fight. It shot out now, but it only grazed the black stubble on Louis's jaw. And that was the only punch the German threw in the entire fight.

For now Louis struck at his man like the Black Death. A left and right almost too fast to follow crashed on the German's jaw. Another left hook and a right chop swung him round, and he half fell into the ropes with his left side completely unprotected and his back partially turned to Louis.

For a second all action ceased. Louis appeared to draw back and then all the energy in his brown whip-lash frame exploded into one tremendous right-handed blow. It seemed to start from the soles of his feet, flashed up through his legs, past those mighty thighs, and then with his full 14 stone behind it it sank into the German's left flank like a black bludgeon.

The scream
ALREADY the crowd was on its feet, baying for the kill, but through the pandemonium a cry as penetrating as the high-pitched screech of a circular saw rang out. At the time I thought it was a woman who could not bear to see Schmeling's destruction, but it was in fact the German himself screaming in mortal agony for that one punch actually dislodged one of his vertebrae.

Schmeling slumped under the top rope, hooked under his right armpit and running across his throat under his chin. He was so suspended that he could not fall and Louis moved in on him, destruction incarnate. The next few seconds were frightening. Louis bent the German's head from first to last as boys playing blow-football puff a ping-pong ball to and fro. It looked for certain as though the slack stalk of Schmeling's neck must snap.

Fortunately, referee Donovan kept his head. He forced Louis backwards and, rightly judging that although on his feet he was in no condition to defend himself, he started to count. After he had got to three Schmeling lurched forward off the ropes, and Louis met him with a scything right which swept the German's feet from under him, sent him hurtling on his back where he lay like some gaudy insect which has fallen into a dam, with his legs waving helplessly in the air.

Again the count only reached three before he was up, but by now he had no idea where he was, what he was doing, or whence came those alderg-hammer blows which robbed him of all semblance of comprehension.

Number three
ANOTHER right from Louis and again Schmeling was down, this time on his fingertips, with his great heavy black head hanging low. He pulled himself up once more and for a third time Louis let fly at the slack-jawed wreck in front of him, who like a drowning man—and drowning in pain he was—went down for the third time.

This time he landed on his side, but now he could only twitch his body helplessly, and high against the lights soared a white towel, the symbol of surrender, flung desperately by Max Baucus, Schmeling's trainer and close friend.

Donovan ignored it, continuing the count and there was a mighty confusion in Schmeling's corner as Baucus fought against restraining hands to get into the ring, to get to the side of his stricken champion and perhaps—because his action would have involved disqualification for Schmeling—to prevent him being counted out. As it turned out, he could have saved his efforts for Donovan, realising that Schmeling had no chance whatever left, and was indeed urgently in need of medical attention, suspended the count at about eight—and the fight was over. Joe Louis was still champion of the world.

We remembered how, to breathe again, and then looked incredulously at the stop-watches. From the opening gong to the moment when Donovan threw his arms wide like a man measuring an imaginary fish, precisely 124 seconds had elapsed.

Shipped off
THEY picked up the ruin that was Schmeling, and took him by ambulance to the Poly-clinic Hospital, where he was kept for three weeks and then taken by stretcher aboard the Bremen and shipped back to Germany.

Once there, the former "Shock Trooper No. 1" was ignored by his former boosters, and was not by a single member of the Nazi hierarchy who had previously found so much propaganda value in him.

And Joe Louis? When I saw him in his dressing-room afterwards and asked him his plans he had just this to say: "Ah aims to get me lots and lots, past those mighty things, about fourteen hours. And then ah aims to 'eat Joe' about as much fried chicken as ah can lay ma hands on!" Joe had just about the biggest hands of anyone I have known.

(World Copyright—London Express Service.)
Next Saturday:
CERDAN V. LAMOTTA

A jungle of hatred pulsed behind Louis

The Pasha brings on the dancing girls

FOR the 28th time in three years, the 76-year-old parchment-skinned Pasha of Marrakesh, El Glaoui, "Guardian of the Atlas Mountains and Lord of the Caravans," has been watching his favourite Paris show, with its retinue of 24 scantily clad showgirls.

This time, however, he saw it in Marrakesh, not in Paris. For, to mark a great occasion, the entire show was flown to Marrakesh for a two-night visit—at a cost of £16,000.

The occasion: the opening of Morocco's first casino at this exotic resort (a favourite with Mr. Churchill), situated between the Atlas Mountains and the Sahara Desert. Flown over for the opening along with the cabaret were a stock of gambling chips with a face value of £60,000 (highest denomination, £80).

Before the opening night there was an anxious exchange of cables between Marrakesh and Paris. Mohammedan law frowned on semi-nudity, so would the company arrive suitably equipped with brassieres?

El Glaoui has bestowed the comedienne for the Marrakesh casino on a 42-year-old former circus tumbler, now proprietor of a chain of Paris billiard parlours, M. Jean, Baucher.

The casino was built before the war and never used. But M. Baucher, who heads a Franco-Belgian syndicate, has agreed—in exchange for a nine-year tax-free concession—to add to Marrakesh amenities with a night club, cinema and two hotels.

Opening night was a brilliant occasion. The Pasha, suitably attended by calds and sheiks, surveyed with satisfaction an audience composed of local French-Moroccan nobles and senior United Nations and French army and air force chiefs and their wives.

A local "cette nuit" (this night) to "Loulou-Glou." They

PARIS NEWSLETTER from SAM WHITE

were like living flowers delicately wrapped in tissue paper," he said.

The Pasha is a pillar of French rule in Morocco and has often made his fierce Berber tribesmen available to French authorities in disputes with his Nationalist-minded rival, the Sultan of Morocco.

The Pasha's palace, known as the "Garden of Pleasures," is maintained on a scale of Oriental magnificence justified by his £20 million fortune. He has four official wives, seven sons and 30 cars, including a silver-plated Rolls-Royce.

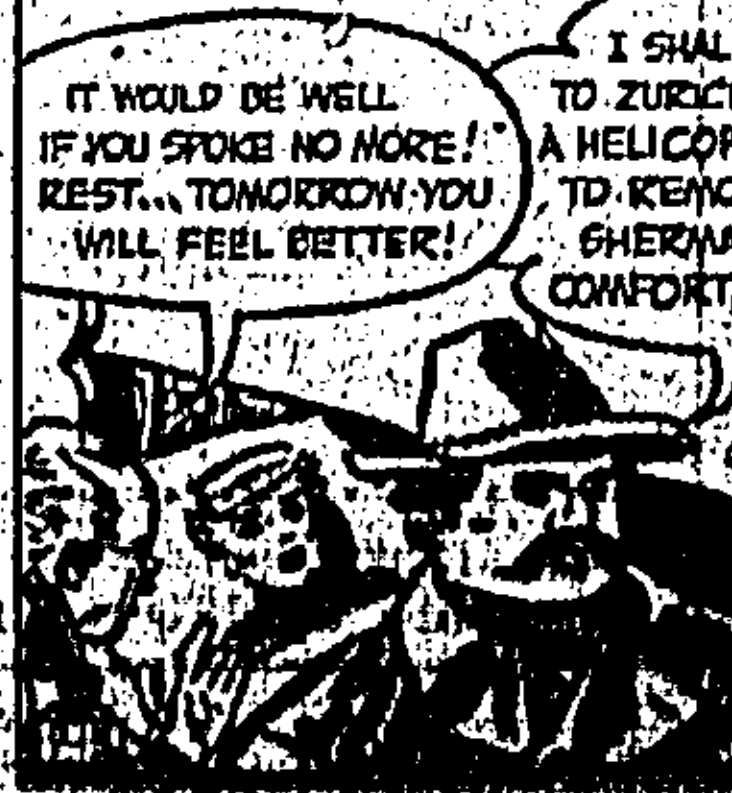
THEY SAID IT

QUOTES: Mrs. Marianna Roy, 60, former wife of U.S. tobacco millionaire R. J. Reynolds, I have come to Paris to get eight hours' sleep and see some American movies.

The Aga Khan: Although an Easterner I drink champagne, because we must move with the times.

Professor Maurice Chauliery, of the French Academy of Sciences: The phenomenon of octopuses is extremely rare.

JOHNNY HAZARD



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By Frank Robbins

Castrol

THE MASTERPIECE IN OIL

WEEK-END WOMANSENSE

So many Eggers-on

PUTTING THEIR SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL OF FASHION

MAKE YOU SAY: I'LL TAKE IT

UNFOLDING the history of a dress... a story shows how many different people in their everyday jobs are drawn in when the wheel begins to turn to launch new fashions and keep them going; a story that pinpoints how vast, rich, and complex is the Rag Trade.

The scene is laid at Dunfermline, in London's Oxford Street, and in Newcastle. Here are the characters—in order of appearance—

• **WALTER BOSSHARDT**, managing director of a textile firm in Dunfermline. Two lengths (one black and one white) of a pure silk satin that used to be worn by jockeys were specially woven for the Queen—at the request of

• **NORMAN HARTNELL**, the Queen's designer. "I wanted to design a very simple, tailored dress for her Majesty to wear at the Royal Film Performance," he said, "as a contrast to all the elaborate fluffy dresses the stars wear." So he made the Maggie Dress for

• **THE QUEEN**, who wore it at the Royal Film Show.

Front-page gown

Enter the PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER, Walter Bellamy, whose picture of the Queen's dress caught the eye of

• **MISS TRILBY STACK**, a store buyer. "It struck me immediately that it could be copied," she said. So she phoned

• **MR. MAX SHALDEN**, a manufacturer.

Now enter simultaneously the ASSISTANT DESIGNERS and the MACHINIST **JOAN BONHAM**. Between them they got the first model into the store in three hours.

Next day mass production began of versions of The Dress in black and white, black and pink, grey and cyclamen, wine and pink, satin and velvet, and a bridal version in white satin and silver lame. Enter now...

• **MARGARET BURTLE**, store mannequin, who wore the copy to show customers and sold six the first day, helped by

• **MISS ANNE TUNNICLIFFE**, salesgirl, who was sold to date 120 of the evening dresses—at 9 guineas and 11 guineas, and 13 bridal dresses at 14 guineas.

TV gown

The plot thickens. In from the wings comes the Trade Press.

"An Newcastle," reported **FASHION EDITRESS** Leonora Curry, "the same dress is selling in the inexpensive dress shops for 5 guineas."

Last to come into the story are the PAPER PATTERN people. "I saw the dress first on TV," reported Miss Violet Abbott, pattern specialist.

"Then I noted its success and asked Mr. Maxwell, head cutter, to go into production."

"Our paper pattern of The Dress will be in the stores' catalogues at the end of the month, price 2s. 6d. The material needed is eight yards."

SUCCESS STORY

★ **SWIFTEST** social success in years began with a girl who, 20 years ago, was one of the crowd—and recently became unique. It is the social success story of the daughter of a doctor in Virginia, U.S.A., who last month reached every society hostess's goal and captured the world's hardest-to-get guest.

In 1931 she married millionaire Huntington Hartford.

In 1939 she married a film star, Douglas Fairbanks Jun.

In SEPTEMBER 1949 she was at the Stein-Hartwood wedding.

In 1950 her husband received his 14th decoration was mentioned in the Court Circular.

In 1951 they were at the Syon House Ball—and Princess Elizabeth was there. Then they were at a wedding attended by Princess Margaret.

THIS YEAR the pace quickened. In June she gave a party in a night club—and the Duchess of Kent was there. In early July she gave a party at her home for Margaret Truman—and Tom Kerrigan was there.

In September she captured the celebrity of the year with a



THIRTEEN PEOPLE—AND THAT OLD WHEEL GETS TURNING... KEEPS TURNING

party for Charlie Chaplin. And by November the Royal Family home—Queen Elizabeth.

TWO-SIDED TALK

★ **WHAT they say—when HE gets engaged.**

HIS FATHER: "I wish them all the luck in the world, of course, but I did so hope he would wait until he was a little older."

HIS EX-GIRL FRIEND: "I wish them all the luck in the world, of course, but he'd be terribly difficult to live with."

WHAT they say—when SHE gets engaged.

HER FATHER: "I wish them all the luck in the world, of course, but he hasn't a penny."

HER MOTHER: "I wish them all the luck in the world, of course, but I'm afraid she will never settle in Ireland."

HER EX-BOY FRIEND: "I wish them all the luck in the world, of course, but she'd be terribly difficult to live with."

PARTY NIGHTS... the

way you see yourself remains much the same—but the pattern for guest and hostess is changing fast

By PHOEBE YOUNG

EVEN the most miserable

of us feels a slight urge to entertain at New Year.

"Let's give a party," we cry, as we have visions of a brilliant thing.

So much for visions. But the party-giving spirit turns to four parts at the thought of the host, the preparations, and the rest of it.

Well, don't panic. The cult of the casual is here. It started in Chelsea studios, moved to Mayfair, and is creeping steadily out to the suburbs.

The casual party is booming, and no wonder, for the essence of it is lack of preparation, lack of organization, and lack of expense.

REMEMBER—

Here are the rules—

RULE ONE: Invite your guests casually—on a postcard or by telephone. Word the invitation so that the guests must accept, but don't say "Drop in."

"A few friends are coming," or "We're anything." Never call it a party.

RULE TWO: Invite a mixed bag of guests. Also the two old friends who are there, early and give the evening guest the impression that he has arrived at the right time.

RULE THREE: Let the party take its course. If the guests want to leave, they will. If they want to stay, they will. If you suggest either, a frozen look of embarrassment will come over their faces.

RULE FOUR: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE FIVE: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE SIX: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE SEVEN: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE EIGHT: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE NINE: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE TEN: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE ELEVEN: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE TWELVE: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE THIRTEEN: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE FOURTEEN: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.

RULE FIFTEEN: As you have invited to tell the guests to wear something with a splash and some in ball-length cocktail dresses. To avoid embarrassment, it is best to wear a dress that is a little longer than the hostess's.



THE PARTY TOUCH... ABOVE

AN evening coat which isn't mink gets a touch of distinction by the addition of glamour from the sea-shore. The pearls, encircled, if you choose, by rhinestones give the party look to this evening coat in brushed velour. The shells, already placed for sewing on, can be bought in the big stores which sell everything (and, oddly enough, in those little shops which seem to sell hardly anything).

THE PARTY TOUCH... RIGHT

THE hat with "the leastest on the head"—familiar now for round-about town wear—has grown up into quite something in the picture on the right. Additions here are a jawl or two, a handful of spray, and a look of distinction that will help to open any party conversation.



Anne Edwards' GIFT QUIZ

WITH a view to getting Better Presents for Wives (and simplifying the business of giving husbands something they will actually put into use), I publish today the results of my Christmas Present Quiz.

To the question: "Which of the presents your husband has given you is absolutely The Best and which of the presents you have ever given him does he really use?" I got these answers:

MARY (TV) MALCOLM: "The nicest he ever gave me was an antique choker necklace in French paste. The most useful thing I ever gave him was a pigskin travelling case with three plastic bottles and three jars. He said, 'You know I never use gadgets,' and has never stopped using it since."

MRS NEVILLE (test pilot): "The nicest he ever gave me was a motor—and I love that. But apart from that, the nicest thing I've ever had was a red crocodile handbag."

"Three years ago I gave him a leather brief case. He said: 'Much too shiny—I'll look like a new boy.' But he carries everything in it and now it's so battered it scarcely holds together."

BILLIE ("Call Me Madam") WORTH: "The nicest present he ever gave me was when he sent a cheque to the florist and arranged for me to have a year's supply of flowers."

"The only present from me that he's used continually is the electric train I gave my son."

LADY (wife of the C.I.O.S.) HARDING: "When we were stationed in Singapore, he gave me a Ming bowl, which he picked up cheaply in Hongkong."

"The present I've given him which he has really liked, and used a lot is a nylon shirt."

SPOTTED

A new double-headed lipstick with one colour at one end and another colour at the other.

Now ideas for other hotels to copy. The gift voucher, which gives you credit for a good dinner at the donor's expense.

And the first new sensible idea this year for children's clothes. It's a slipper towel, designed like a towel, with a drawstring at the top.

Churchill's suit, to put on in a minute after swimming.

(London Express Service)

Kort of California

The Most Wearable Wardrobe in the World!



AT LEADING FASHION STORES

PLEASANT NEWS TO ALL

Who Look For Good Furs to Buy!

We have the largest collection of Fur Garments, such as you may not have dreamed of, all ready for your choice, all at new low prices.

Our Grand Sale to mark Our 16th Anniversary is still on.

New Shipments of Furs from Canada and other world-renowned fur-producing countries have just arrived.

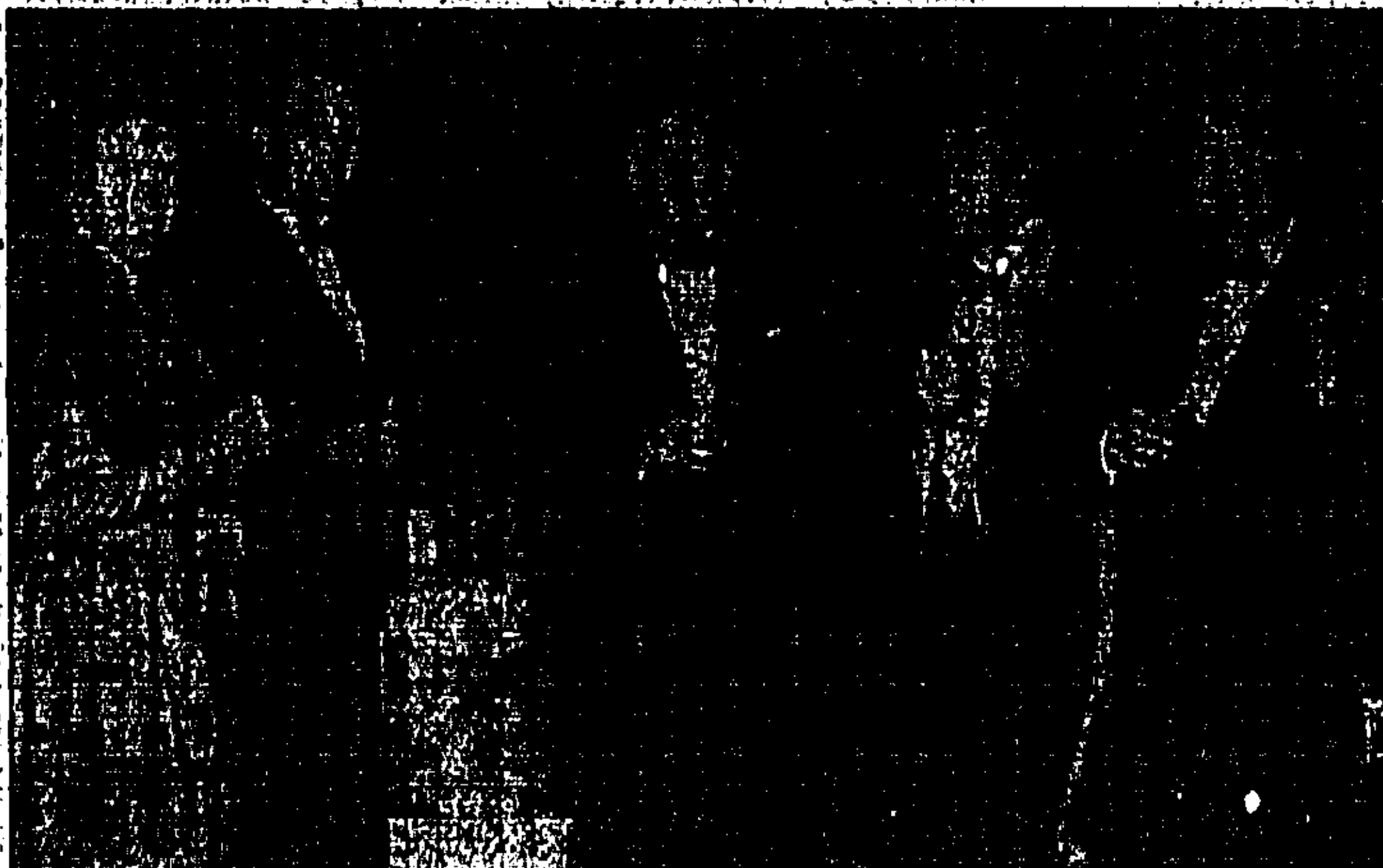
You are welcomed to our store to select the furs of your delight!

Please call on our Fur Expert, Mr. S. T. Fong.

SIBERIAN FUR STORE

27 Des Voeux Road, C. Hong Kong. Tel. 25934.



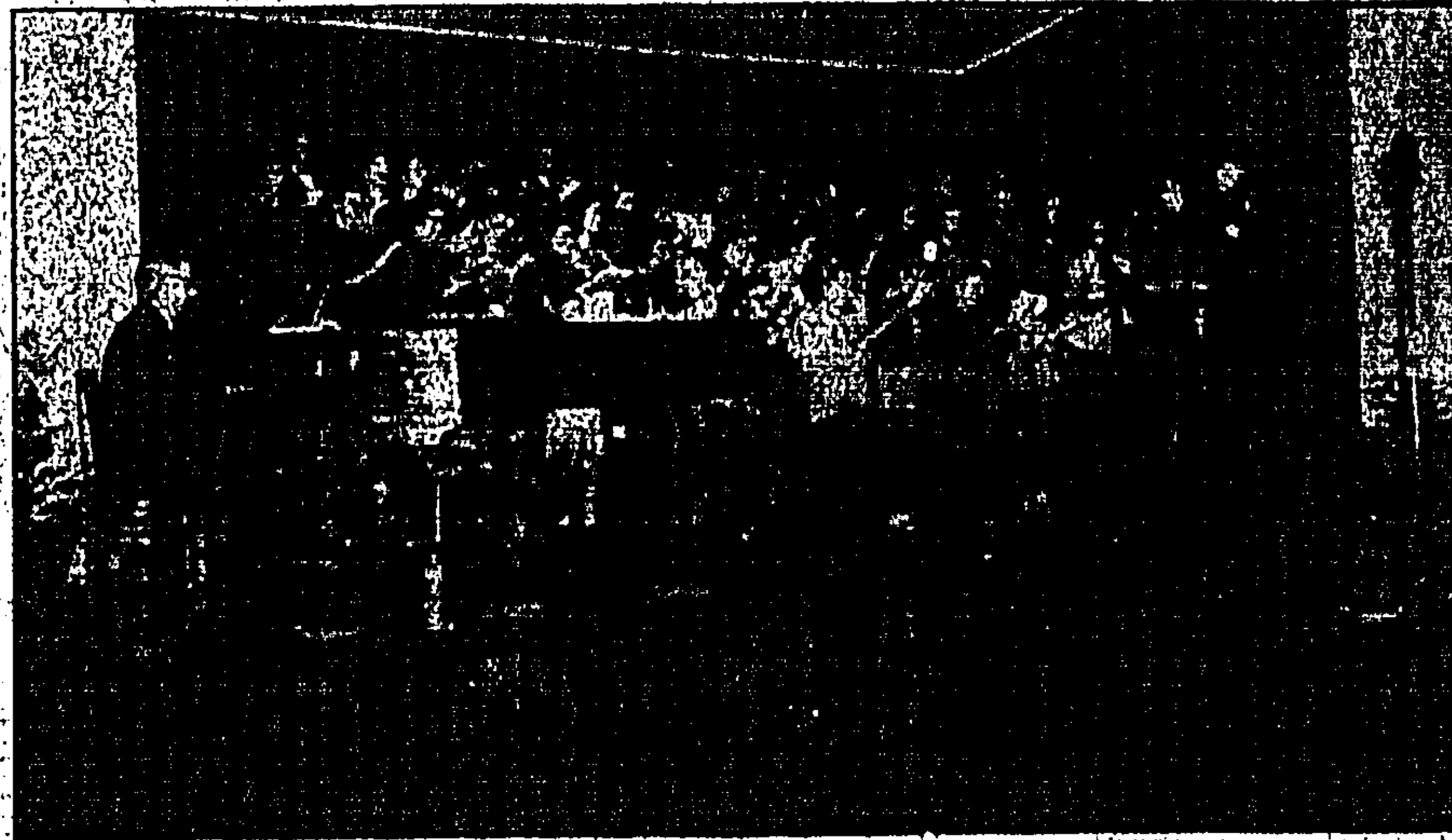


GROUP at the Police Reserve Ball, held last week at the Skyroom. From left: Mrs. Rolph, Mr. P. I. M. Irwin, Mr. N. G. Rolph, Mr. T. O. Tso and Mr. Ko Fook-lu. (Staff Photographer)

SCENE from the Hangkong Stage Club's production of "The Holly and the Ivy." Pat Lytton as Margaret Gregory and A. H. Turner as Richard Wyndham. (Staff Photographer)



RIGHT: Students of the Quarry Bay School who took part in the play that won the Teachers' Cup in the recent Inter-School Dramatic Competition. The cup was awarded for the best play offered by primary schools in the English section. (Golden Studio)



PICTURE taken after the christening of Stephen Kevin, son of Mr and Mrs K. E. Greene. The ceremony took place at St. Margaret's Church. (Ming Yuen)

LEFT: Dr. L. T. Rido, the Vice-Chancellor, conducting the Hongkong University Christian Association choir at their annual carol concert last Sunday in the Great Hall of the University. (Staff Photographer)



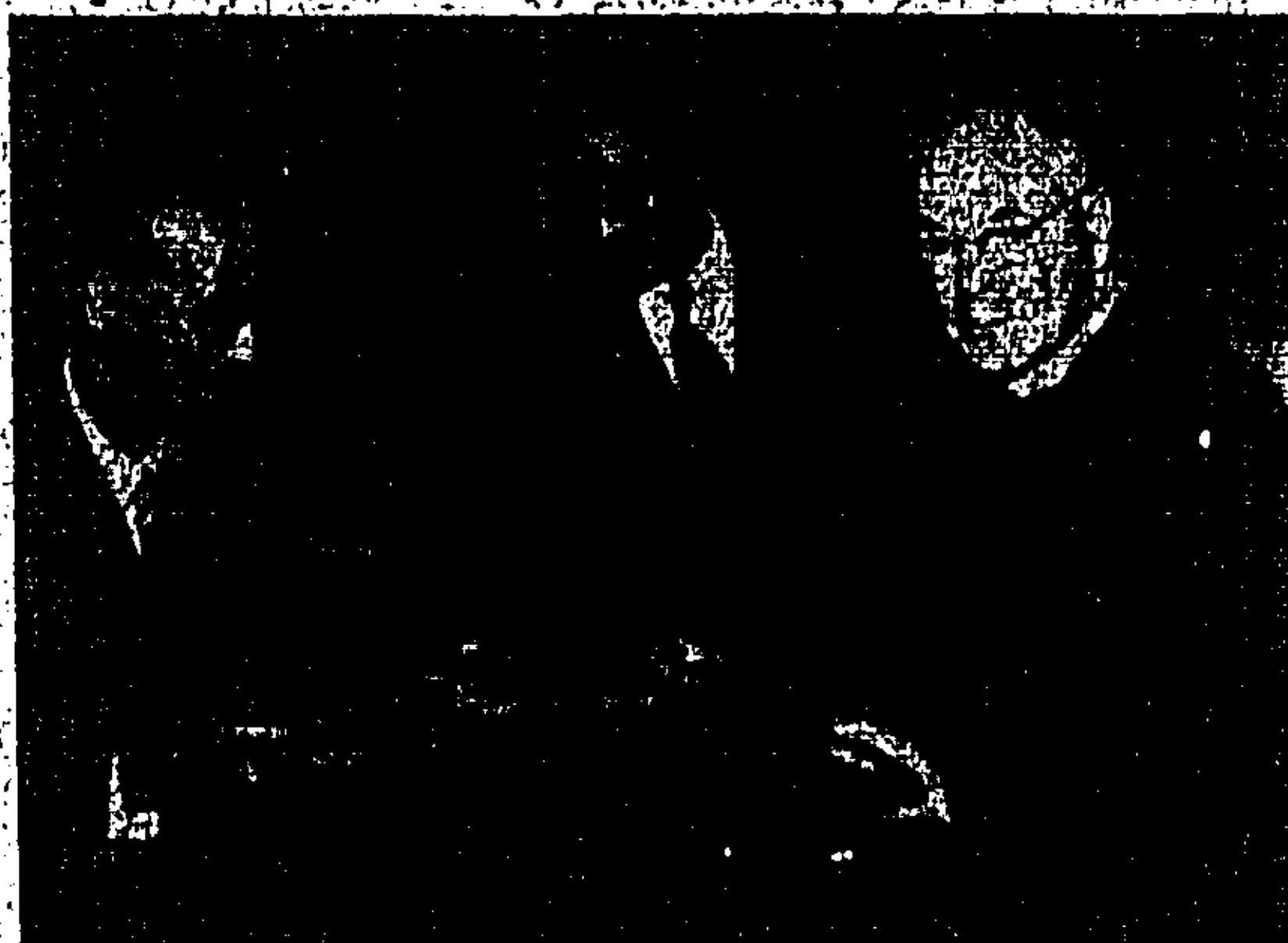
FAMILY portrait taken after the christening, at St John's Cathedral last Saturday, of Eleanor Rosemary Vaughan, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs B. C. Field.
(Staff Photographer)



CAROL singers give a rendering at the Young Women's Christian Association Christmas pageant. It was the first time the pageant was staged in the newly-completed building on Garden Road. (Staff Photographer)

RIGHT: The Rev. Bro. Patrick, Principal of La Salle College, making a presentation to Mr Chan Long-hin, who has just retired from 35 years of teaching, at a dinner in his honour last week. Mr Chan is at left.

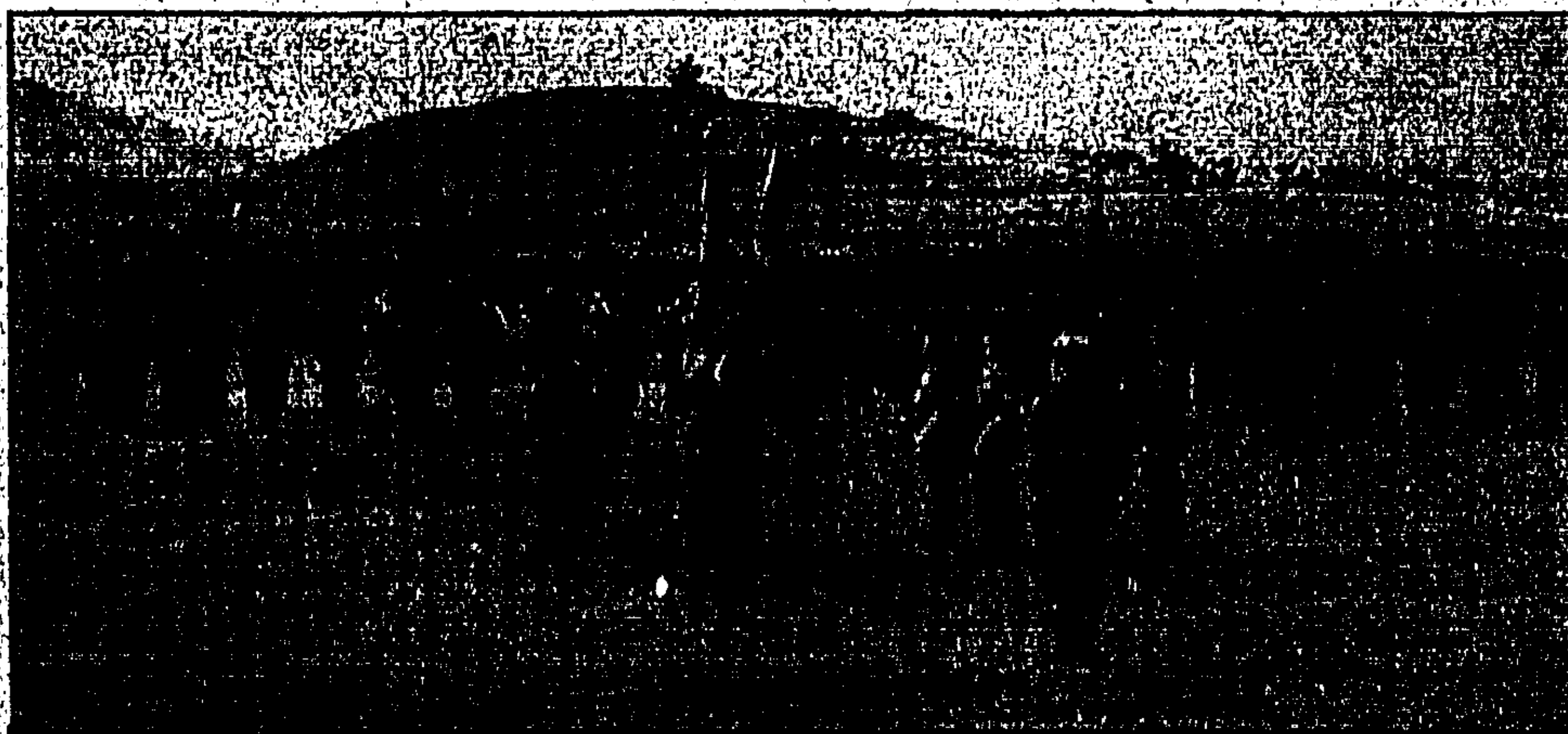
BELOW: The ceremony of handing over the Colours for the day by the officers to the sergeants of the Wiltshire Regiment on the annual commemoration of the Battle of Ferozeshah. Picture was taken in the New Territories, where the Regiment is now stationed. (Staff Photographer)



THE christening of Charles Andrew Burton, son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Fairbairn, took place at St John's Cathedral last Sunday. (Staff Photographer)

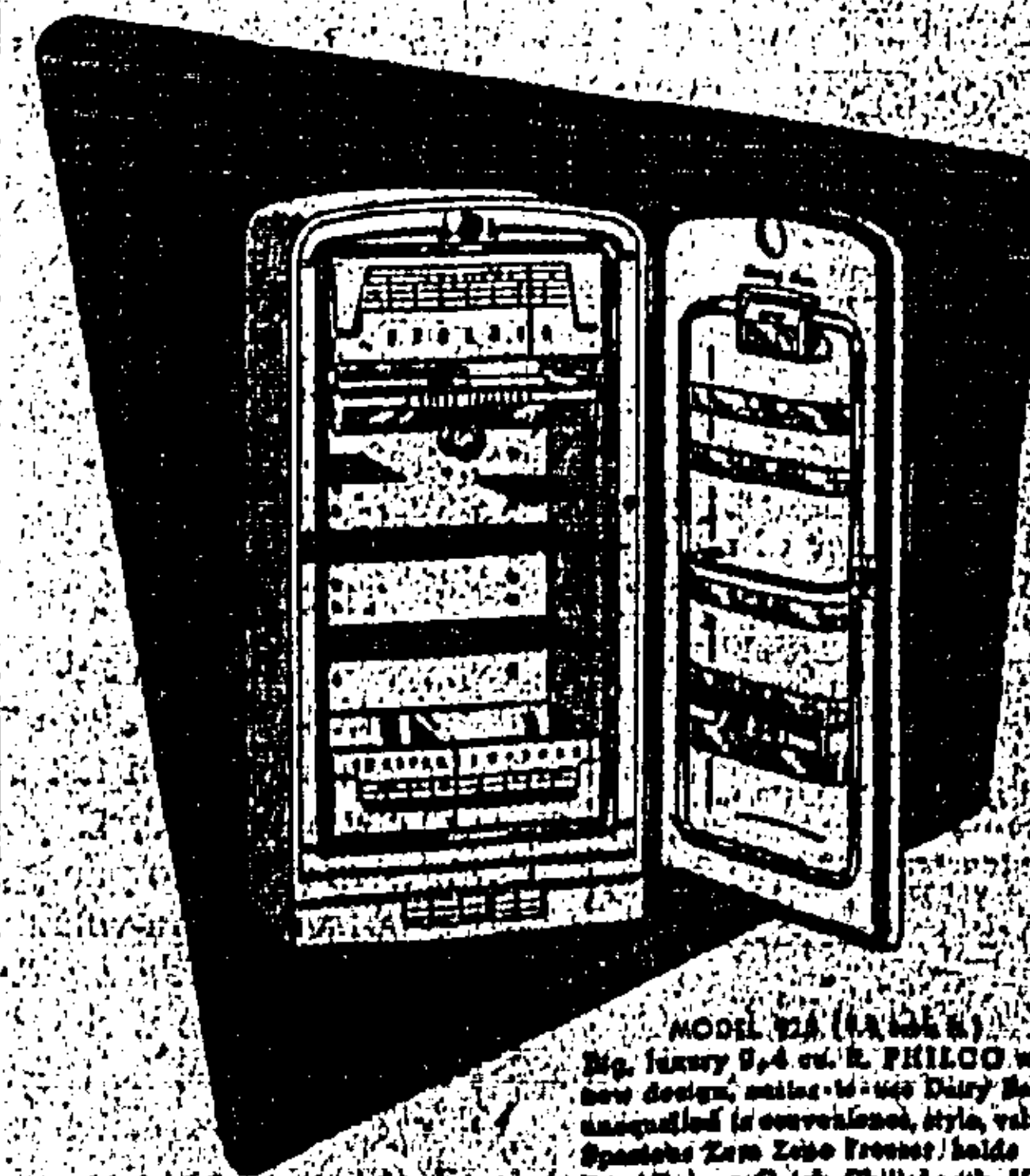
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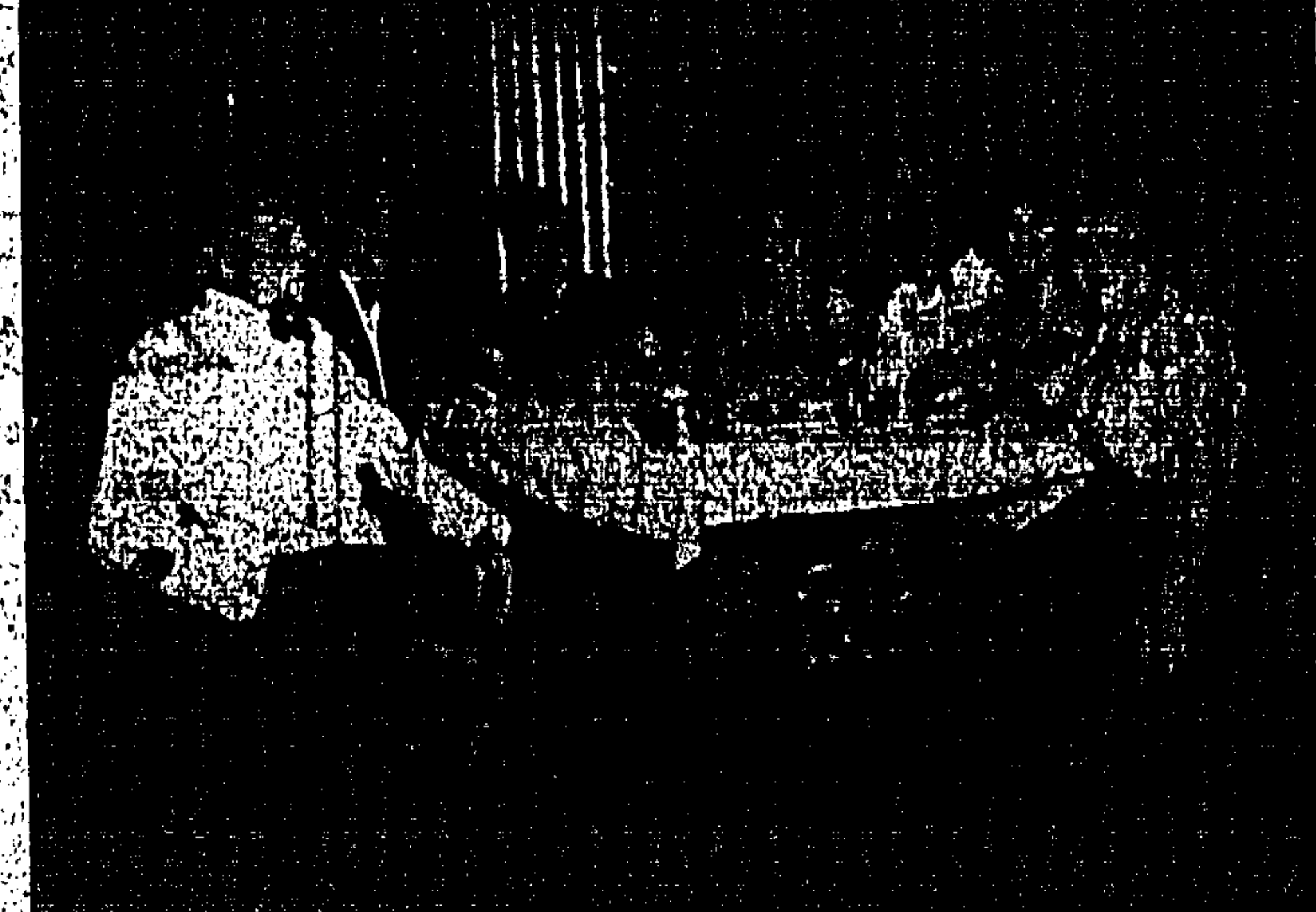
TWO groups pictured at the dance for junior officers, organised by the Forces Civilian Entertainment and Welfare Committee and held at the Peninsula Hotel last week. (Staff Photographer)



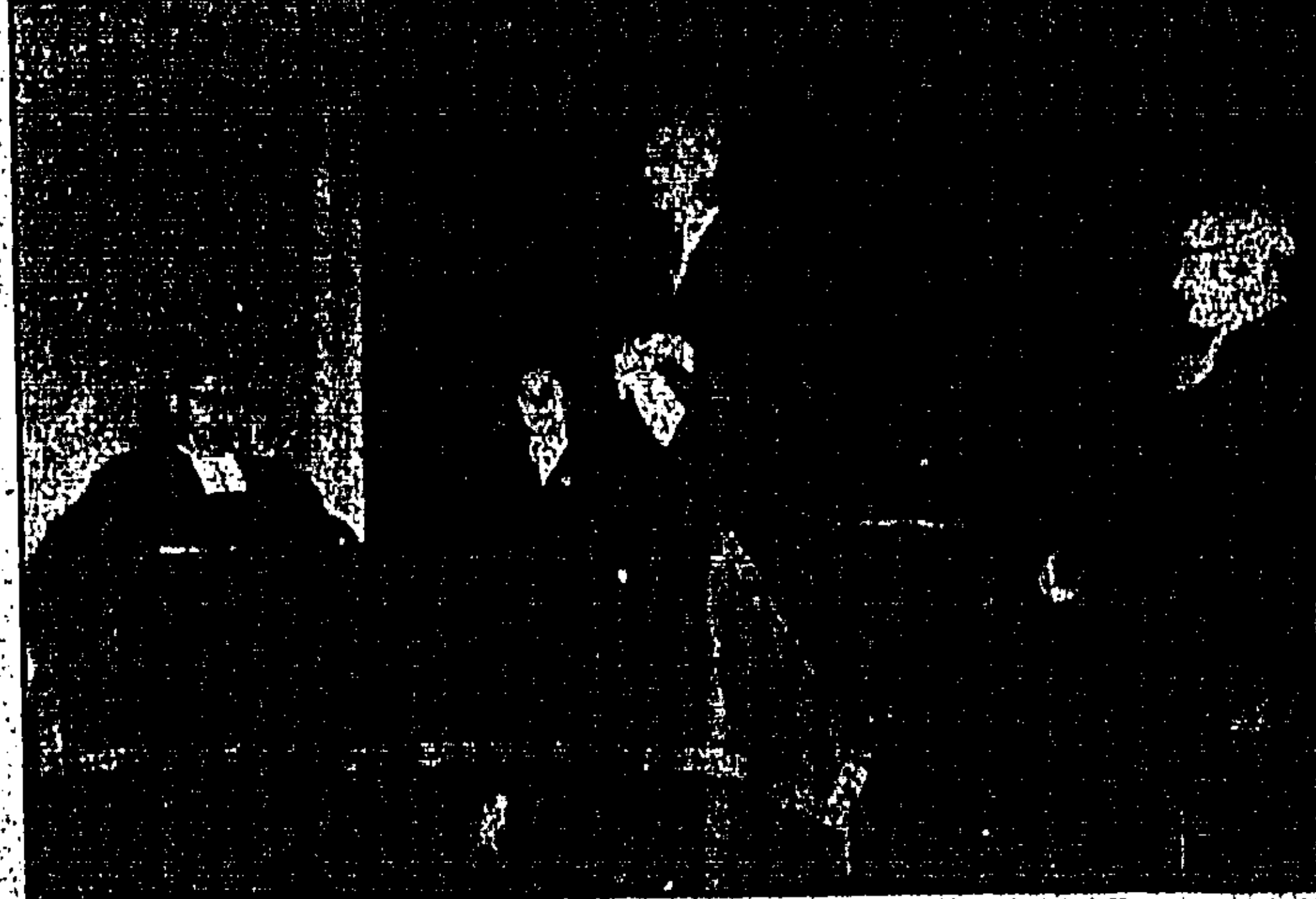
PICTURED at the Union Church after their wedding are Mr and Mrs Robert Taylor McNab and friends. The groom is the assistant secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce. The bride was formerly Miss Hannah Prentice Otter. (Ming Yuen)



THE Bishop of Hongkong, the Rt Rev. R. O. Hall, with Christ Church members whom he confirmed at a special service last Sunday. (Staff Photographer)



AT the Women's Volunteer Force Club dance held at the Club Lushan last Saturday. From left: Mr W. Lane, Mr G. J. White, Mrs Gollersky, Mrs Robertson, Mr J. Robertson, Mrs White and Mrs Lane. (Staff Photographer)



MR. L. G. Morgan speaking at the annual prizegiving of St Joseph's College, which took place last week. Mrs Morgan distributed the prizes. (Staff Photographer)

LEFT: Scene at the children's Christmas party given by the 7th Royal Tank Regiment at the Naafi Club. Cakes and toys were in abundance, and all the kiddies had a gay time. (Mainland)



MR. Bryan Thomas Flint and Miss Lee Lai-wah, who were married at the Registry last week. Picture was taken at the reception, when the bride was about to cut the cake. (Mainland)



LEFT: Mr Arthur Edward Vera Brown, and his bride, formerly Miss Eileen Winifred Hubbard, leaving St. John's Cathedral after their wedding on Monday. (Staff Photographer)

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COLOURFUL scenes at the Lee Theatre last Tuesday when the Hongkong Concert Orchestra, augmented by the girls' choir of St. Paul's College, gave their annual Christmas concert. (Ming Yuen)

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and
DES VOEUX ROAD

THE BEST ACTORS in the world are starved of good plays because one big name stays absent too long from the list which begins Terence Rattigan, Peter Ustinov, Noël Coward

Come out from behind that beard

I BEGIN to wish Emyln Williams had never learned to read. His fabulous success as a reciter of Dickens is robbing the theatre of a precious creative talent.

Our actors are the best in the world. But who is writing for them? Bernard Shaw and James Bridle are gone. Somerset Maugham and Sean O'Casey are heard no more.

J. B. Priestley has turned sour on the theatre. Of the two poet-dramatists who emerged since the war, T. S. Eliot, has done nothing since "The Cocktail Party," and Christopher Fry hangs fire.

SO the burden rests on the only four writers who have proven staying power. Noel Coward, the exuberant politician, Peter Ustinov, Terence Rattigan, and Emyln Williams.

Consider Williams, the Welsh grocer's son who won seven Oxford scholarships and became a nervetaut actor and a dramatist both prolific and powerful.

He wrote plays you watched through tears ("The Corn Is Green"). He could touch your shoulder with a finger of horror ("Night Must Fall"). His people had roots in the earth. His stories tingled and sped.

But here is what made him blessed among playwrights: he was an educated man proud of his humble beginnings. He understood the poor and degraded (whom Rattigan ignores, Ustinov burlesques, Coward mocks or patronises). No one else painted servants and villagers with love. His intelligence did not shrivel his heart.

This man has abdicated. All because one wet summer afternoon five years ago he started reading "Bleak House" to his sons, and had the idea of impersonating Dickens in public. It turned out the biggest money-spinning gimmick of the age.

Williams is completing a triumphant tour of England. He goes to Switzerland next, then Germany. In January he starts a round of 50 American cities.

Already he is preparing a third programme of Dickens for South Africa next autumn.

London paid £1,900 a week to hear him. New York, £2,070. As Williams told me: "I am making a lot of money."

PACKED into the back of his Rolls ("I go round like a travelling salesman") are eight beards, two Victorian suits, a case of books, and a £25 collapsible desk which, as pianist Rubinstein pointed out, does not even have to be tuned.

His spell is hypnotic. In two hours he recites 30,000 words from memory. It is a dazzling display—brilliant, absorbing. But enough is enough. Where are Williams's plays?



JOHN BARBER calls Emyln Williams back to his right job



PLAYWRIGHT WILLIAMS—face behind the beard

Once I worried about his health. Dickens strained his heart to death with his famous public readings. A new book reports that his pulse jumped during a performance from 60 to 124 beats a minute.

"But he wasn't a trained actor," says Williams happily. "We Welsh speak singing miners. Our voices are strong."

He is only 47. Old plays of his are revived, televised, filmed. Now he writes no more.

IN his wealth, is Williams bankrupt? Is he losing his identity? Going Dickens mad?

Unusually, Williams answers: "I am determined not to become identified with Dickens the MAN. Of course, I have done everything to give the impression I am he in the performance. But outside the theatre I insist actively sign from any identification."

"I don't want to fan letters beginning 'Dear Mr Dickens.' I have had letters to the house addressed to Charles Dickens Esq., c/o Mrs Emyln Williams."

"There are endless suggestions that I will want to buy—old prints, paintings of Mr Menzies, rugged reprints of the novels. Estate agents even tried to sell me 'Bleak House' at Broadstairs."

"The assumption of these kindly correspondents is that I am rabidly collecting anything to do with him—I'm not."

Private Angelo on the way out

Naples. WELL, I am very glad now that I did not go rushing straight home from Cairo but broke my journey first in Greece and then in Italy.

For what I have found as a result is all very encouraging. Yes, things are looking up in this part of the world. They are looking vastly better than I had expected to find them.

Everything is moving briskly towards the establishment of a common strategic plan between Yugoslavia, Greece, and Turkey—vital if we are to establish a firm defensive front in the Balkans.

Here in Naples, Admiral Robert B. Carney, American Commander for the Southern Mediterranean sector, shows that he has at last come to realise the strategic importance of the Middle East.

What is more, he is now beginning to appreciate there is something in the British argument that defence of the Middle East is impossible without the present British base in the Suez Canal Zone.

A winner

NOW that is remarkable progress. For Admiral Carney, partly because of his Irish-American upbringing, partly because his experience of naval warfare has come chiefly from the wide Pacific Ocean, has hitherto been prejudiced against this British view.

But of all the things I have seen and heard what has cheered—and amazed—me most is the new Italian Army.

I am not at all sure that this army is not the most paradoxical development of all the paradoxical developments of this paradoxical postwar period.

Can you think of anything more man-bites-dog than this? A quiet mousy little university professor called Alcide de Gasperi, whose entire life has been devoted to peace, has in five years succeeded in building up a new Italian Army superior in striking power, morale, and general fighting ability to Mussolini's army.

A winner

TO what is the amazing change due? In the first place to the smaller numbers of the new army. It has only 200,000 men. That is a size which is not beyond the strength of Italy—especially with American aid to take out its own resources.

Mussolini called up a million men to his colours, more than Italy could afford. The result was that his armies were badly equipped, badly dressed, badly fed, and badly officered.

SEFTON DELMER

Reporting on a tour of the Eastern Mediterranean, one of Europe's fifth points

Italy's present smaller army is well equipped with almost a full complement of modern weapons. It is highly mechanised and highly mobile.

In vain I looked for the Private "Angelo" of the old Italian Army—I could see none of them. And I believe the assurance of the officer who told me there was no place for them.

A loser

IS there any feature of the situation in these parts which I do not find satisfactory? Oh yes. The muddle over Albania.

If ever there was a symbol of how far this Western world of ours is from being united in its policy towards the Soviet threat it is this small mountain country of Albania.

There it lies on the edge of the Adriatic, an island of Sovietism in an otherwise Western anti-Soviet world.

It would be an easy matter to provoke an internal rising by the Albanian patriots and overthrow the weak Communist Government of satellite Premier Hodza. The Russians would be able to do nothing about it. Politically it would be a tonic to all the Soviet-oppressed peoples of Europe. Strategically it would be valuable too. For it would eliminate the Soviet submarine base in the Albanian Bay of Valona.

Why then do we hesitate to encourage such a coup?

Because everyone concerned suspects everyone else. The Greeks do not want to see the Yugoslavs active in Albania, the Yugoslavs are afraid of Greek ambitions in Albania. Both Yugoslavs and Greeks suspect Italians of pretensions in Albania.

So Albania remains as it is.

Private Angelo was a clown-like character in a book by Eric Linklater.

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Four years buried

EVEN in 1945, when the war in Europe had ended, flying had its risks. Flight Lieutenant Bokor kept this only too well; it was May 18th when he had to crash-land in the South of England, and was badly injured. His aircraft, a Typhoon, was completely wrecked, and—more personal tragedy—his Rolex Oyster disappeared.

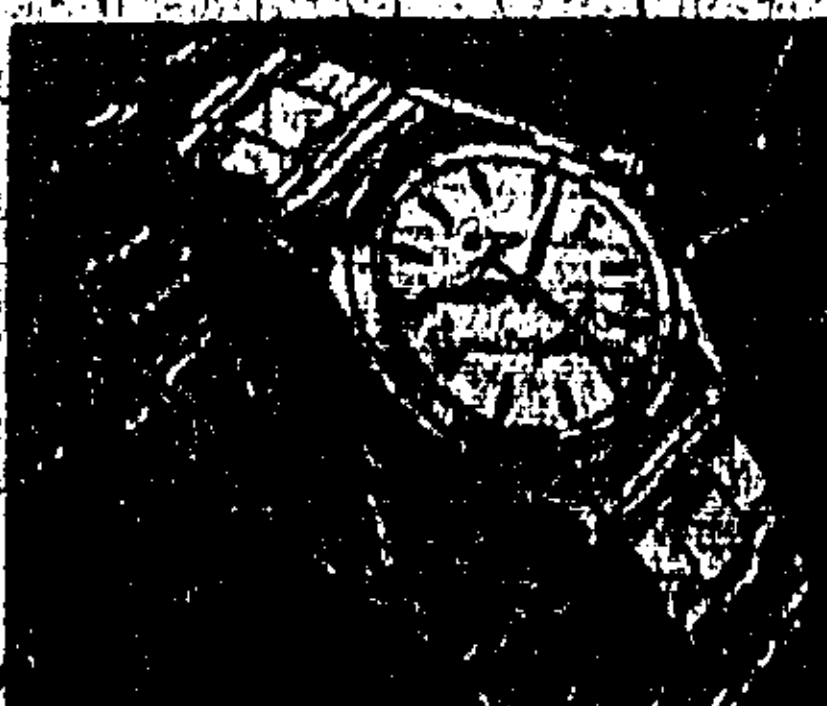
It was almost exactly four years to the day when a man who lived near where the Typhoon had crashed was digging in his garden. He saw something glitter in the earth, when he stooped and picked it up—yes, it was the pilot's watch.

The case had corroded and the hands had rusted, but these were incidental. After four years in the earth the delicate mechanism was still unharmed; the Oyster case had protected it perfectly.

When you remember that this watch, to stay accurate, has to tick exactly 432,000 times a day, and that the lubricating oil is carefully measured to 10001 of a gramme; you can realise the exquisite delicacy of a Rolex movement.

But, you may argue, most watches would never have to undergo a test like that. True! But all watches have enemies—dust and damp, dirt and perspiration—and the sort of watch that will stand that test and those four years can hardly be harmed by anything else. A perfect movement, perfectly protected is what you want—and what you find in a Rolex Oyster. You find it, too, in the Tudor, the junior member of the Rolex family, which is also protected by the Oyster case.

This is a true story, taken from a letter written by the pilot in question (see Flight Lieutenant W. Bokor, of Oulton, Lancashire) to the Rolex Watch Company. The original letter can be inspected at the Office of the Rolex Watch Company at 19, rue de Marbach, Geneva, Switzerland.



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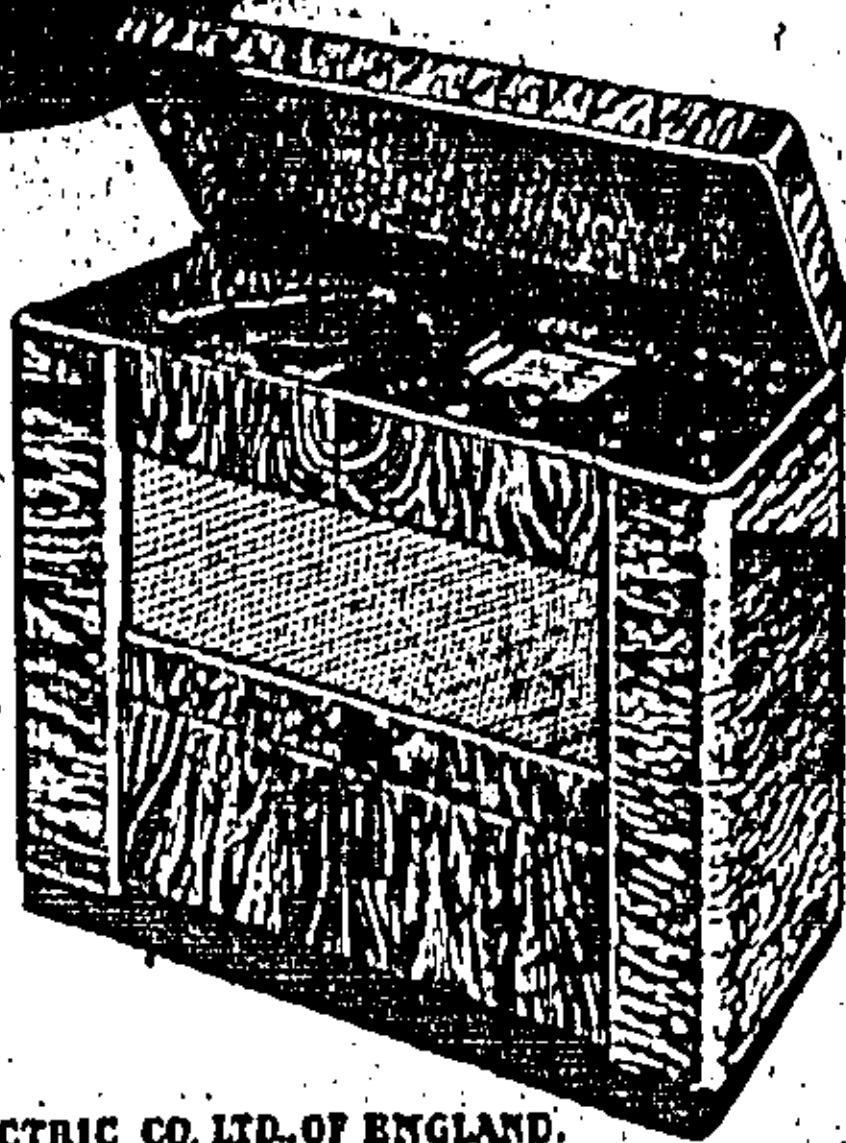
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NEW YEAR'S DAY

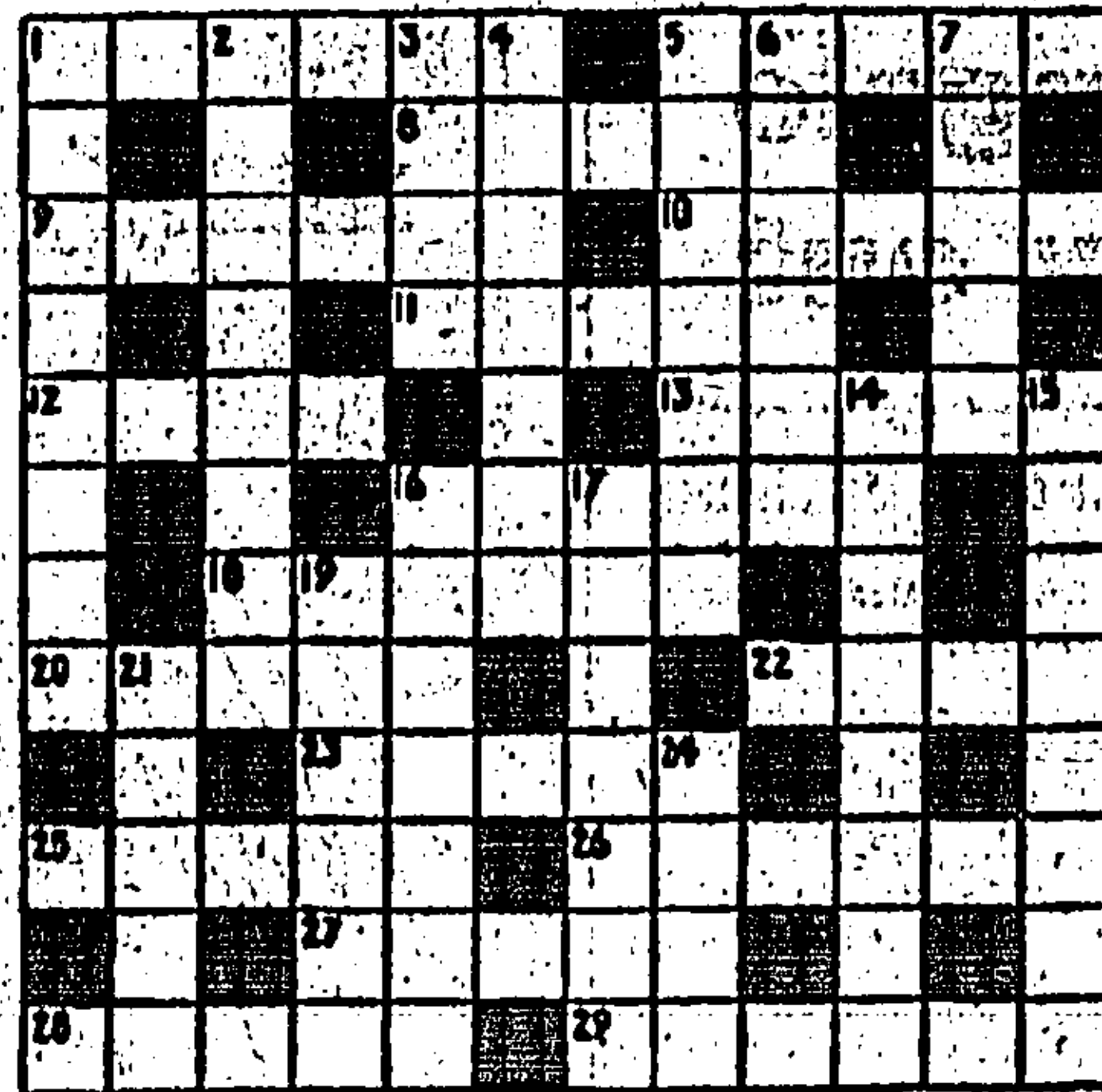
SPECIAL TEA DANCE 4.30 p.m.—6.30 p.m.

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The Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ltd.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Piercing cry (8).
 - 5 Rustic (5).
 - 8 Bird (6).
 - 9 Reach (6).
 - 10 Courtous (5).
 - 11 Challenge (5).
 - 12 Colour (4).
 - 13 Drugs (5).
 - 14 Unruffled (5).
 - 18 Rubs out (6).
 - 20 Picture stand (5).
 - 22 Dross (4).
 - 23 Minor actor (5).
 - 25 Custom (5).
 - 26 Give up work (6).
 - 27 Attend upon (5).
 - 28 Tangles (5).
 - 29 Church dignitaries (8).
- DOWN**
- 1 Panic flight (8).
 - 2 Trains (8).
 - 3 Parched (4).
 - 4 Controls (7).
 - 5 Withdraws (7).
 - 6 Concord (6).
 - 7 Spicy (6).
 - 14 See (8).
 - 15 Stutters (8).
 - 16 Greets ceremoniously (7).
 - 17 Reticence (7).
 - 18 Oppose (6).
 - 21 Once more (5).
 - 24 Dance (4).

WEDNESDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Pallor, 5 Proud, 8 Dear, 9 Abates, 11 Order, 12 Desist, 14 Pure, 16 Spill, 18 Inure, 19 Stay, 20 Modest, 24 Dillo, 25 Avenue, 26 Note, 27 Reads, 28 Envoys. Down: 1 Peak, 2 Land, 3 Odes, 4 Reside, 5 Protest, 6 Orderly, 7 Directs, 10 Tenor, 13 Plaster, 14 Puritan, 15 Sermons, 17 Pause, 19 Sedate, 21 Even, 22 Trio, 23 Bets.



—THIS DREAM MEANS:

By now you've met the horse symbol in several dreams—usually women's dreams. Large animals usually symbolise strong and deep emotions. In this case the emotion is clearly linked with the handsome young man into which the horse changes.



In removing the horse's bridle—which controls him—and in walking and talking with him, you reveal a desire to trust him, a readiness to be friendly and to go the same way as he. Who he is, you don't seem to be clear about, except that you prefer brunettes. But you are ripe for romance. This is a simple wish dream: and everything is well under control.

Careful With The Lemonade!

IF YOU TAKE MR DOUGLASS' ADVICE ABOUT LOVE POTIONS

VENUS IN THE KITCHEN.
of Love's Cookery Book.
Edited by Norman Douglas.
Holmemann, 12s. 6d. 192
pages.

THIS posthumous work of Douglas's is not his least naughty. It consists of recipes, likely to fortify love in a cold climate, collected before the war "for the private use and benefit of a small group of friends most of whom, I am sorry to say, are older than they want to be."

After the war, Douglas expunged 50 dishes in whose virtue he had lost faith: 175 remain, come with the editor's personal recommendation. From early times the connection between the warm heart and the well-managed kitchen has been a close one. Saffron was used as a love-spice by the Phoenicians; it flavoured the moon-chaped cakes eaten in honour of the goddess Ashoreth. But cinnamon, vanilla and peppermint also have their champions.

Calves' brains were a well-attested love dish among the ancient Greeks, the only one in their cuisine not revolting to modern taste. Douglas gives two recipes in which they are the main ingredient. Sparrow's brains appear in another Douglas dish; the bird was in classical times the messenger of Venus.

Eggs have a traditional efficacy; celery is well-spoken of; as are artichokes and asparagus. Truffles are not to be

despised, and appear in six of the Douglas recipes. Crayfish soup is, perhaps, the most elegant of all dishes, including the heart to rooster thoughts. Those who find it too expensive may fall back on broad-bean soup, which Douglas awards his "highly recommended."

The reader may well think that some of the concocted drinks he describes will stupefy rather than inflame. In this matter, alcohol is a necessary ally. Care is to be taken.

Should be exercised with tea, coffee and tobacco. An excessive addiction to lemonade is particularly frowned on by the best authorities.

Difficulty may be experienced in obtaining certain recommendations. "Larders," e.g., by the "timid person" who seeks to sustain himself on leopard's marrow cooked in goat's milk. But if it is not always possible, or even desirable, to follow Douglas's advice, his book remains a monument of ripe scholarship and sardonic enthusiasm. As a companion to it, H. M. Tomlinson's *Norman Douglas, a friendly, perceptive guide now largely rewritten*, may be mentioned. Hutchinson issues it, (7s. 6d.)

PICTURE BOOK OF RUSSIA:
By Lady Kelly. Country Life, 16s.

WHERE so many ardent propagandists for the Soviet Union have dismally failed, Lady Kelly succeeds: she makes Russia seem attractive. She does so by 68 photographs, mostly of high quality taken by herself and her son during 1949-51 when her husband was British Ambassador in Moscow.

Will she receive from the Kremlin the gratitude that is her due? Most unlikely. She has not troubled to portray tractor works, hydro-electric plants, collective farms and other grim triumphs of the regime. Her photographs are of churches with onion domes, baroque palaces, and smiling children in the slums.

The strangeness and beauty of the persisting Russia is revealed in a book which might drive many inquirers to Inquirer offices. If only the ordinary traveller had, like an ambassador's wife, the chance to visit, say, the shrines of Suzdal.

PERIOD PIECE: a Cambridge Childhood. By Gwion Raverat. Fabers, 21s. 282 pages.

MRS RAVERAT, one of the third generation of Dar-

wins (counting from Charles Darwin the First, origin of the species), recalls in this sprightly book of reminiscences, the elders of her close-knit clan: high-spirited, well-to-do, hypocritical and old.

Mrs Raverat's five Darwin uncles, clever men, were quite unable to understand the minds of the poor, the wicked or the religious. "Religion," they thought, was an old custom now going out of fashion.

By **GEORGE MALCOLM THOMSON**

Darwin worried about their health, not their souls.

Preserved in the ancestral home in Kent was a family Bible, consulted because all the Darwin illnesses and vaccinations were recorded in it.

Health was a grave matter to Aunt Eliza (sister to the five uncles), who, when the window was opened to air a room, would cover her husband, Uncle Richard, with a dust sheet.

Uncle Lenny was allowed (by Aunt Mildred) one lot of whisky every night "as medicine." He had to drink it at one gulp and was given a charcoal biscuit to take away the taste. But Aunt Mildred distrusted not

only alcohol but also art, as usually music.

"It is sad indeed," she wrote to a niece, "to be born with the artistic temperament, and to have your Richard's success to it, but I feel anxious about the clarinet and piano."

Mrs Raverat, at an early age, succumbed to art. Now, looking back on her childhood, on Cambridge in the thirties, on bygone manners and people, she records what she remembers in the delicious humour of her writing and her drawings.

PAL JOEY By John O'Hara. Cresset Press, 7s. 6d. 125 pages.

JOEY, small-time crooner in Chicago night-spots, is one of O'Hara's most exactly typical inventions. He is a liar, a crook, a great, if unwitting, lover of "ladies," and ever hopeful that with some "number" stolen from a pal, he will make his big time and come the leader of a little sign-piece band of his own.

As the narrative, Joe stands out as a real character, a man whose love of a debt to Damon, a young building, he can't let go. You will not get to like Joe, but he is unconsciously an amusing, if a little little animal. The world is catching up on Joe. "Drop me a line but be careful who you give my address to."

The SNAPSHOT GUILD



The baby will look even cuter when the picture is enlarged.

Enlarge Your Favorite Snapshots

EVERY picture taker has a certain number of snapshots that are extra-special favourites, and usually takes great pride in displaying them and explaining the conditions under which they were taken. You may, for example, have some snaps of your family, or holiday pictures, that you would very hard to get in any case. If those snaps have great meaning to you, they deserve to be made into striking enlargements.

There are a good many reasons why enlargements are so good as a snapshot. It will usually look even better in a larger size. Another is that details show up much more clearly, faces are far more recognisable, and the whole picture is easier to look at. Furthermore, an occasional enlargement of a most people know, always adds variety and spice to a snapshot album.

If you have a darkroom and enlarger of your own, you already know that it's a simple matter to enlarge your pictures. But if you don't, you should get one or have your photographer do the work for you. He can usually make the enlargements to whatever size you wish, and can frequently make them from the section of the original picture that you like best.

In enlarging a picture, you can usually improve it by cutting out unimportant or undesirable details that may spoil the effectiveness of the original print. If one edge of the scene has a distracting feature, it is simple to take it out. The composition, too, can usually be improved by cropping during enlargement. In this way you can emphasise your centre of interest and "clear" really achieve a nicely composed scene.

No matter how you get your enlargements, there are a good many things that can be done with them. Not only can photo albums be made much more interesting, but you can frame the prints or mount them, too, for display around the house. Enlargements even make nice gifts. Friends, who were along when you took the snapshots, always are pleased to receive enlargements for their own collection. Turn through your pictures today and pick out the prints that are your prized possessions. If you've enjoyed them as snapshots, you'll surely enjoy them as enlargements.

—John van Gilder

VIGNETTES OF LIFE

Happy New Year

By KEMP STARRETT



THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

SEVENTH RACE MEETING 1952/53

Thursday, 1st and Saturday, 3rd January, 1953

(Held under the Rules of The Hong Kong Jockey Club)

On the 1st Day the First Race will be rung at 11.30 a.m. and the First Race will be run at 12 noon. The time interval is after the Fourth Race (1.30 p.m.).

On the 2nd Day the First Race will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the First Race will be run at 2 p.m.

There are 10 races on the 1st Day and 8 races on the 2nd Day (18 in all).

Through Tickets (18 Races—\$30) also tickets at \$2 each for the Special Cash Sweep on the "Pedro Memorial Cup Sweep" scheduled to be run on 24th January, 1953, may be obtained at the Cash Sweep Office of the Club at Queen's Building, Ground Floor, Chater Road.

Through Tickets reserved for this meeting but not paid for by 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 31st December, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future meetings.

THERE WILL BE NO SPECIAL CASH SWEEP ON THE LAST RACE.

To avoid congestion at the Cash Sweep Office at Queen's Building, non-members are requested to purchase their sweep tickets at the Club's Branch Offices at—

5 D'Almeida Street, Hong Kong

or

382 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

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The attention of Totalisator Investors is drawn to the following rules—

Dividends will be paid on the winning and placed ponies so declared by the Stewards when the "ALL CLEAR" is given. The "ALL CLEAR" signal will be indicated by a white light at the Totalisator Tower. BACKERS ARE ADVISED NOT TO DESTROY OR THROW AWAY THEIR TICKETS UNTIL AFTER THE "ALL CLEAR" SIGNAL HAS BEEN EXHIBITED.

Totalisator Tickets should be examined and checked before leaving the Selling Counters as mistakes of any description cannot be rectified later.

Cash received in respect of Dividends should be checked before leaving the Pay-Out Counters as no claim for short payment of the value of tickets presented can be entertained once investors have left the Counters.

All winning tickets and tickets for refunds must be presented for payment at the Race Course on the day to which they refer, but none will be paid later than one hour after the time for which the last race of the day has been scheduled to be run.

In no circumstances will any Dividends be paid or refunds made unless a ticket is produced. Payment WILL NOT be made on torn or disfigured tickets.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE

Members and guests are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting ladies not in possession of Brooches or Season Tickets and gentlemen, non-members of the Club, to the Members' Enclosure and the Club Rooms at \$10 per day including tax for ladies or gentlemen are obtainable through the Secretary at Alexandra House, on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him, and for payment of all bills, etc.

Only a limited number of badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will be on sale at the Race Course.

The Branch Offices and the Treasurers' Comptrol Office will close at 10 a.m. on the 1st Day and at 11 a.m. the 2nd Day. The Secretary's Office will close at 10 a.m. the 1st Day and at 11.45 a.m. the 2nd Day. The Treasurers' Comptrol Office is situated at Queen's Building, Ground Floor, Chater Road, and the Secretary's Office at Alexandra House, 8th Floor.

A limited number of tickets will be obtainable at the Club House provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Box (Tel. 2118).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure will be \$3 per day including tax for all persons including ladies and will be payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Public Enclosure during a Meeting will forfeit his or her right of admission to the Enclosure and will be required to pay the regular fee of \$3 in order to gain re-admission.

BOOKMAKERS, TIC TAC MEN, ETC., WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO OPERATE WITHIN THE PRECINCTS OF THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE OBTAINABLE IN THE RESTAURANT IN THE PUBLIC ENCLOSURE.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Servants' passes will be issued to private box holders only, who are requested to distribute them with discrimination and to endorse their names on the passes. Holders of such passes are not permitted in the Members' Enclosure except for passing through on their duties and must remain in their employers' stands.

Owing to the congestion in the Member's Betting Hall and at Booths adjacent to Boxes in the Coffee Room, Box-holders and Members are requested to ensure that their servants make use only of the Public Betting Hall. Military Police will be posted at various points in the enclosure to ensure that this regulation is adhered to.

By Order,
H. MISA,
Secretary.

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Billiards & Snooker

By HORACE LINDRUM

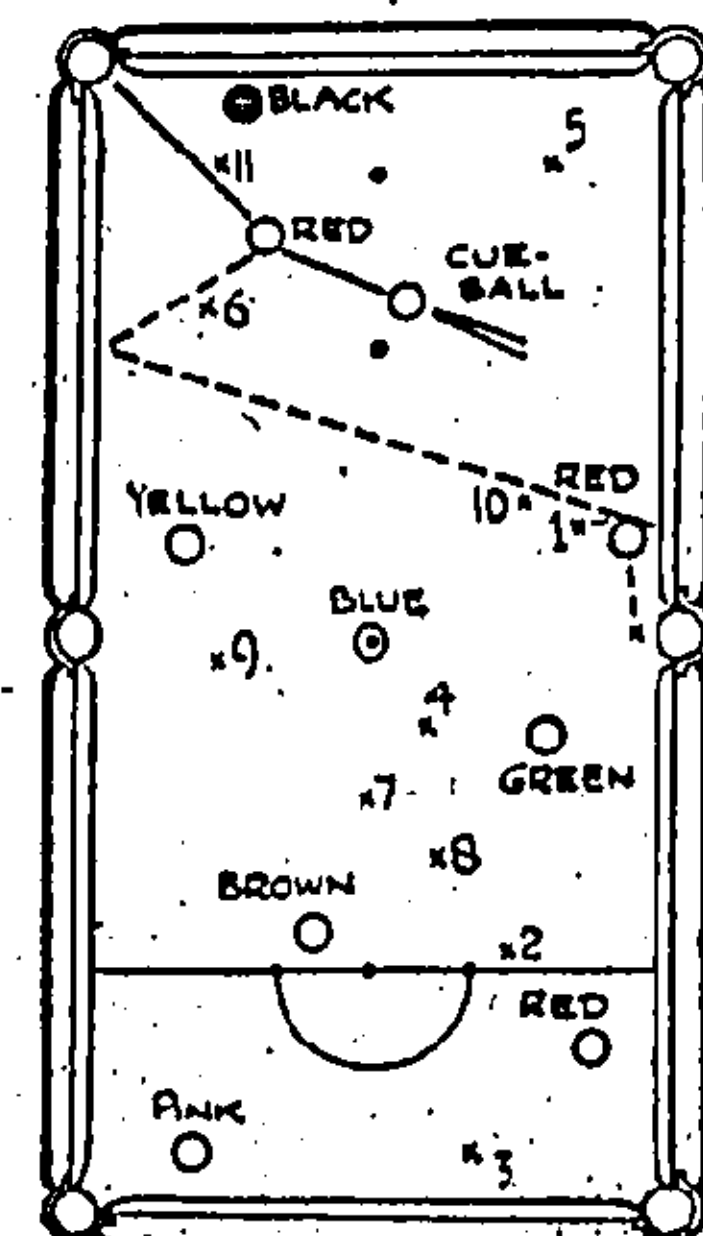
(World Professional Snooker Champion)

The position of the balls as shown in last week's diagram is one that requires only a little planning and practice to give you confidence in tackling such situations.

I would first take the red lying nearest to the cue-ball and pot it into the top left-hand corner pocket with enough speed to bring the cue-ball off the top left-hand side cushion to kiss the red resting on the right-hand side cushion and so knock it into the open. The cue-ball will stop at about position X1.

From here I would address it low—with a short grip on the butt of the cue—and play the blue into the left middle pocket, screwing the white ball on to the bottom baulk cushion with enough speed to come back for the red in baulk to position X2.

Never take what looks to be a simple pot carelessly. For instance in the case of the next red I would aim very carefully indeed to make certain my ball comes off the side cushion and



finishes on a good angle for the pink. I would use right-hand side on the red, to leave the cue-ball in position X3. This angle on the pink will allow the cue-ball to come off the left baulk side cushion across the table to position X4 for the easy red into the centre pocket.

VITAL STROKE

My next stroke is the vital one for the continuation of the break. My scheme would be to pot the red with the sole purpose of getting the black on to its own spot. And so, to avoid leaving a straight pot on the black, I would send the white ball on to the right side cushion, then to the top cushion until coming to rest in position marked X5.

I would play my next stroke by addressing the cue-ball on top and letting the cue follow through with the delivery. In this way the cue-ball—after contacting the top cushion—will speed through to the left side cushion to rest, as shown in the diagram, in position X6. Tying careful aim to pot the yellow into the left-hand middle pocket and with a gentle run-through stroke, my cue-ball would next come to rest in perfect position (X7) on the green. I would pot the green into the right-hand middle pocket and bring the white off the bottom right-hand side cushion for position (X8) on the brown.

From X8 I would send the brown into the bottom left-hand corner pocket—striking the cue-ball underneath to screw back for the blue to position X9. In potting the blue gently into the right-hand middle pocket the cue-ball would run through across the table for position X10 on the pink. This would be a straight pot into the top left-hand corner pocket; so I would strike the cue-ball on top to make it run through for the perfect position on the black (X11) into the top left-hand corner pocket.

ARSENAL ARE THE 1953 CUP FAVOURITES

But Watch Sunderland And West Bromwich Albion

Says PETER DITTON

The eighth post-war FA Cup Competition, greatest money spinner in sport, has now reached the interesting stage. The third round, draw, which brings in the First and Second Division clubs, provides such room for speculation.

Arsenal—they cannot escape the "lucky" tag—have been drawn at home against Doncaster, one of the weaker Second Division sides. Doncaster player-manager is Peter Doherty, Ireland's greatest-ever inside-forward.

Peter, who with the passing years has taken over the wing berth, will undoubtedly do his best to inspire his colleagues to victory. But it will be a great surprise if he is successful as evidenced by the first botling odds on the Cup which make Arsenal firm favourites at 9-1. Sunderland have been given the second favourite position and at 2-2 look a pretty good bet to reach the fourth round against Third Division opposition at Roker Park.

And do not forget that in addition to their present XI, Sunderland also have the services of Len Shackleton to call upon. This great ball-playing inside-forward is still considered by many to be the best in the country. And if on his return to the side he can find his goal-scoring form of last season then Sunderland will take a lot of holding.

Manchester United, Portsmouth and West Bromwich are other sides who should do well in the competition. But Wolverhampton, the League leaders when the draw was made, could easily make their exit in this round for they have to tackle Preston at Deepdale and North End have already beaten them once this season.

WHAT OF BLACKPOOL? What is your particular fancy? Perhaps you think that Blackpool are going to be successful for the first time. If Stanley Matthews can get over the injury bogey that has beset him again, then Blackpool must be carefully considered.

Their forward line containing Mortenson, Allan Brown and Ernie Taylor, not to mention the speedy South African, outside-left Perry, was in tremendous form at the beginning of the season and their defence is a much sounder proposition now than when they were beaten by Manchester United at Wembley four years ago.

What of the holders, Newcastle? They proved the critics wrong who said that in these days of fierce competition, no club could win the Cup two years in succession. Now the question must be faced, can they do it three years on the trot? Personally I do not put it past them. Their present League form is disappointing but it can be directly traced to the injury

which has put Jackie Milburn out of soccer for two months. Jackie has been suffering from knee trouble. Now, however, he is back in light training and expects to be fit early in the New Year. If he is ready to lead the attack against Swansea at St James' Park on January 1st, then Newcastle should make Round Four without any difficulty.

TOO STRONG FOR WELSH Even without Milburn, Newcastle will probably be too strong for their Welsh visitors, but the permanent absence of this great match-winner will, I believe, be too much of a handicap for them in later rounds.

Arsenal, of course, are playing well enough to favour their position as favourites. The return to form of Jimmy Logie, the shooting power of Roper and the speedy right wing thrusts of international Milton make their attack as formidable as in any season since the war.

Whether one can honestly say the same for their defence, I am not sure. Ray Daniel does not somehow give the feeling of confidence that Leslie Compton inspired and the continued absence of Walley Barnes is a telling factor.

Skipper Joe Mercer remains as good as ever. How he manages to last the pace is a constant source of wonder. But he does and his influence on the rest of the side is marvellous. With Alec Forbes giving him whole-hearted support at right-half, Arsenal are still a mighty tough proposition.

BADLY OFF FORM Manchester United, if only by virtue of their post-war Cup and League achievements, must be considered. But they have been badly off form this season and will have to improve greatly on their League form to even overcome the first hurdle, which is a visit to Millwall.

Portsmouth have won the League championship twice since the war but the best they have managed in the Cup was to reach the semi-final three years ago when they were beaten by Leicester.

The key to their success lies in their powerful half-back line of Dickinson, Froggatt and Scouler. These three make up the best club combination in the country and have all been "capped" by their countries, Dickinson and Froggatt for England, and Scouler for Scotland.

Any way there you have the likeliest candidates and cutting my final choice down to three I select Arsenal or Sunderland or West Bromwich. (London Express Service.)

3 'LOST' CENTURIES GIVE HOBBS 200

John Berry (Jack to you) Hobbs did score 200 centuries in first-class cricket and not 197 as the official records tell you—or so many keen students of cricket are arguing now the spotlight of publicity has again picked out Jack on the occasion of his 70th birthday celebrations.

Where and how were the other three centuries scored? Like this—

In the 1930-1 winter season Hobbs and Herbert Sutcliffe were invited by the Maharajah of Vizianagram to tour with his team in India and Ceylon.

Playing against a recognised first-class side, Hobbs scored 937 runs with an average of 72.40, and Sutcliffe 937 runs with an average of 34.30.

Hobbs put up 117 against Ceylones at Colombo in a three-day match; 161 not out against All Ceylon at Colombo in a four-day match, and 117 against an Up-Country XI at Daruwalla in a two-day match. Sutcliffe also scored three centuries.

None of these centuries has been credited to the batsmen in the official records.

SANDHAM CASE Yet, in the winter season 1926-27 Andy Sandham toured India and Ceylon with an MCC team and scored 108 against an Up-Country XI in a two-day

match at Daruwalla. This century, with Sandham's seven other centuries on the tour, is included in the official records.

Now, if Sandham scored 108 against an Up-Country XI in a two-day match, and Hobbs scored 117 against an Up-Country XI in a two-day match on the same ground, why should Sandham's be a first-class century and Hobbs's be omitted from the records?

For it was not until the winter season of 1933-34, when Douglas Jardine's team visited India and Ceylon, that the MCC decided to limit to 70 the matches that would be counted as first-class.

The rest were regarded as second-class.

Incidentally, the Vizianagram team was the only one to beat Jardine's team during the tour. Hobbs did not take part in this tour.

WHAT NOW? In view of these facts and figures it is too late to award the 200 centuries accolade to the man who, to a host of cricketers and cricket followers, was the greatest batsman of them all?

All that is necessary for the MCC to consider the matter again, decide that the Hobbs's centuries in 1930-31 were as much first-class as those of Sandham in 1926-27, and amend the records accordingly.

Jack Hobbs retired in 1934 with 197 official centuries to his credit. Later he said: "Looking back, it is a pity I did not get the 200. I should like to have been the first."

Jack, you were (London Express Service)

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S. S. "WINGSANG" Sandakan, Jesselton Noon 31st Dec.

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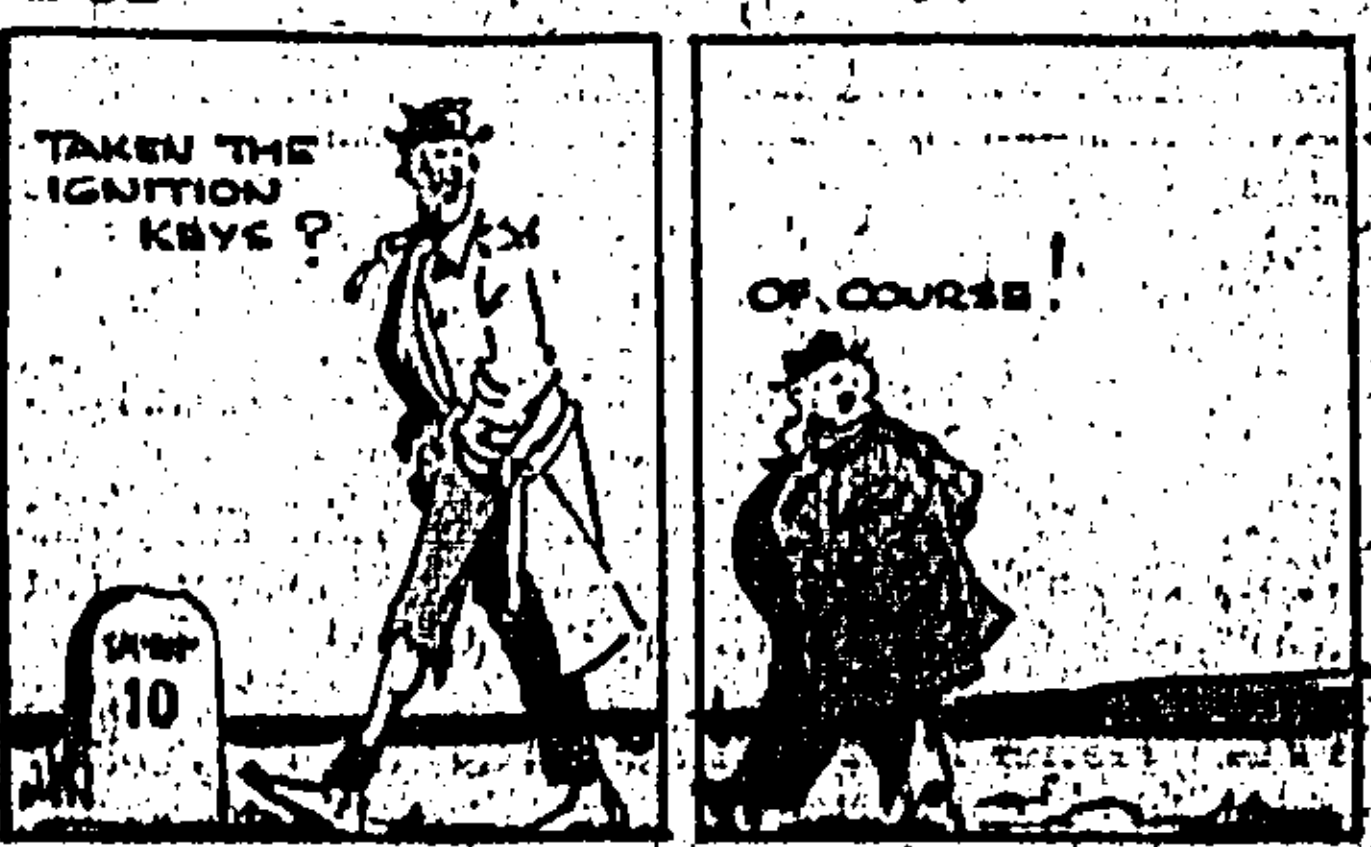
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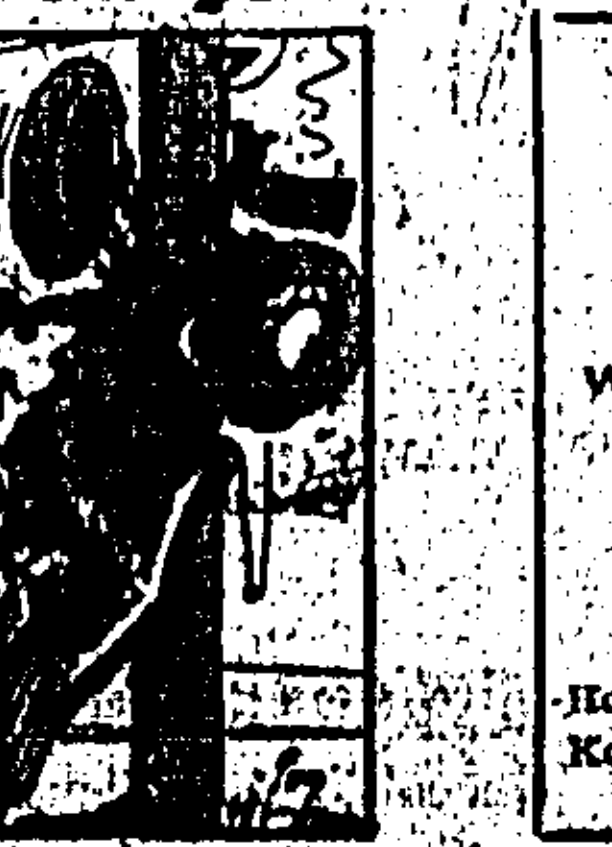
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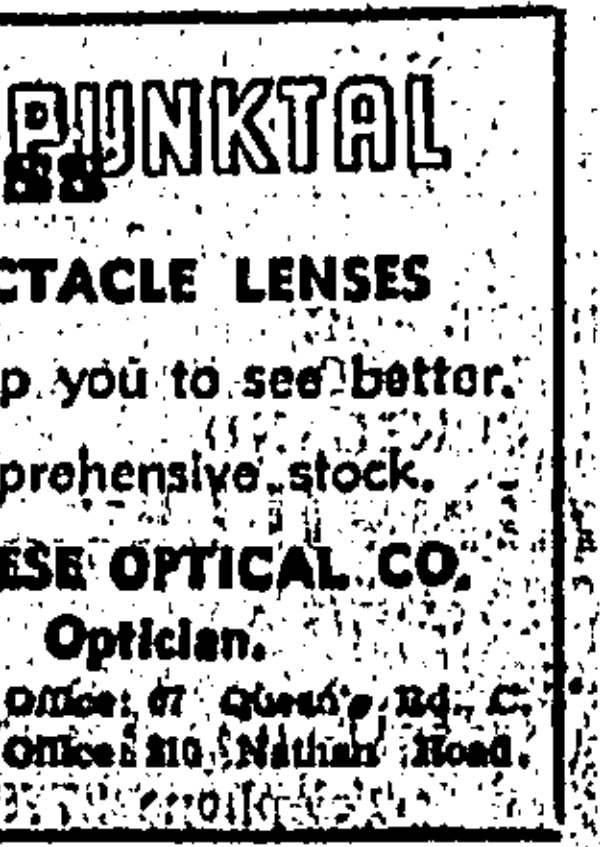
Up the pole



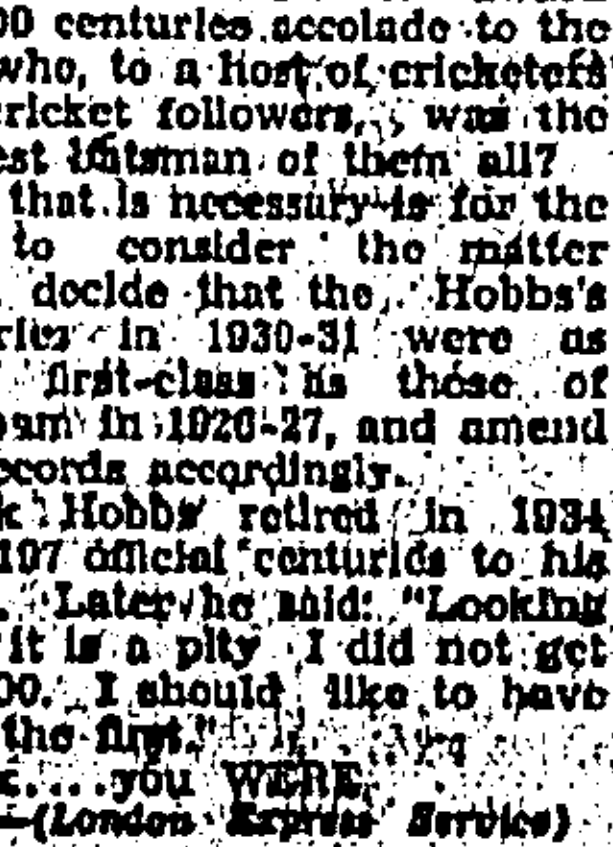
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Up the pole



Up the pole



Up the pole



Up the pole



Up the pole



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"HUNAN"	Tientsin	10 a.m.	1st Jan.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	3 p.m.	3rd Jan.
"YUNNAN"	Shanghai	10 a.m.	8th Jan.
"YCHOW"	Singapore & Penang	10 a.m.	10th Jan.
"ANKING"	Singapore, Penang & Belawan	10 a.m.	16th Jan.

ARRIVALS FROM			
"HUNAN"	Tientsin	20th Dec.	
"HANYANG"	Bangkok	p.m.	20th Jan.
"YCHOW"	Singapore	30th Dec.	
"YUNNAN"	Shanghai	2nd Jan.	
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	7 a.m.	1st Jan.

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"CHANGTE"	Sydney & Melbourne	18th Jan.	

ARRIVALS FROM			
"CHANGTE"	Australia & Manila	20th Dec.	
"TAIYUAN"	Australia & Manila	30th Dec.	
"CHANGTE"	Kobe	10th Jan.	

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"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool, & Glasgow	6th Jan.
"AGAPENOR"	London, Rotterdam & Hamburg	25th Jan.
"ASCANIUS"	Dublin & Liverpool	25th Jan.
"PYRRHUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	6th Feb.

Scheduled sailings from Europe

Sails			
Liverpool		Rotterdam	
S. "AENEAS"	Sailed	10th Jan. 1953	Arrives Hong Kong
G. "ASCANIUS"	do	17th Jan. 1953	51st Dec.
S. "AGAPENOR"	do	23rd Jan. 1953	10th Jan. 1953
G. "PYRRHUS"	do	30th Jan. 1953	17th Jan. 1953
S. "ASCANIUS"	do	6th Feb. 1953	23rd Jan. 1953
G. "AENEAS"	do	13th Feb. 1953	30th Jan. 1953
G. "PYRRHUS"	do	20th Feb. 1953	6th Feb.

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"MENESTHEUS"	20th Jan.
"DONA NATI"	4th Feb.

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H.K./London	(DC-4) 12.30 a.m. Tues. 4.45 p.m. Thurs.	(on return) 11.15 a.m. Mon. Thurs. 6.45 a.m. Tues. Fri.
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H.K./London/Singapore	(DC-4) 12.30 a.m. Thurs. 4.45 p.m. Tues.	(on return) 11.15 a.m. Mon. Thurs. 6.45 a.m. Tues. Fri.

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"BENRINNES"	U.K. via Singapore	27th Dec.	
"KING MALCOLM"	U.K. via Singapore	on or abt.	
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	8th Jan.	
"BENVENUE"	Japan	12th Jan.	
"BENATTOW"	U.K. via Singapore	17th Jan.	
"BENREOCH"	Japan	17th Jan.	
"BENMIOR"	U.K.	2nd Feb.	
"BENCRUACHAN"	Japan	10th Feb.	

SAILINGS

Loading on or abt.			
Loading on or abt.		DUE	
"BENRINNES"	Havre, London and Rotterdam	30th Dec.	
"BENALBANACH"	Avonmouth, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Antwerp	11th Jan.	
"BENVENUE"	Direct to Singapore, thence Liverpool, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Hamburg	12th Jan.	
"BENREOCH"	Direct to Singapore, thence Genoa, London, Hull and Hamburg	17th Jan.	
"BENATTOW"	Kure, Kobe and Yokohama	21st Jan.	
"BENMIOR"	Sandakan, Singapore, London, Rotterdam and Hull	5th Feb.	
"BENCRUACHAN"	Direct to Singapore, thence Liverpool, Dublin, Hamburg and Antwerp	8th Feb.	

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the BOYS and GIRLS PAGE

ZOO'S WHO



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It Isn't Size That Counts

—It's Whether or Not You've Got Good Friends—

By MAX TRELL

It was late at night when Knarf, the shadow-boy with the turned-about name, heard some small voices talking on top of the desk. Tiptoeing up to the desk, he was surprised to see a crowd of things all standing up and comparing their sizes with each other. They were a ruler, a pen, a pencil, a bottle of ink, some rubber bands, a pin and a book.

"Now just look at me," said the Ruler. "I'm exactly twelve inches tall."

"That's a foot," said the Pencil, in an admiring voice. "I wish I were as tall as you, Ruler!"

"Hoped to Get Taller

"Of course," said the Ruler. "I'm hoping to get even taller. I'm twelve inches now—next year I'll be thirteen inches."

"Nonsense!" said the Pen. "You'll never get any taller! You're just a Foot-Ruler and that's all you'll ever be!"

But the Ruler didn't agree with this. It kept saying loudly that it had a cousin who was thirty-six inches tall. "He's my Cousin Yardstick. If he can grow that tall, I don't see why I can't!"

Meanwhile the Pencil was saying sadly: "I don't care anything about growing taller. I'd be happy just to remain the same size."

"Well, my dear," said the Pin. "I don't see why you can't stay the same size. I'm always the same size!"

"You're different," said the Ruler. "Nobody ever sharpens you. Every time I'm sharpened, I get a bit shorter. I hate to think what I'll be like when there isn't anything more left of me to sharpen."

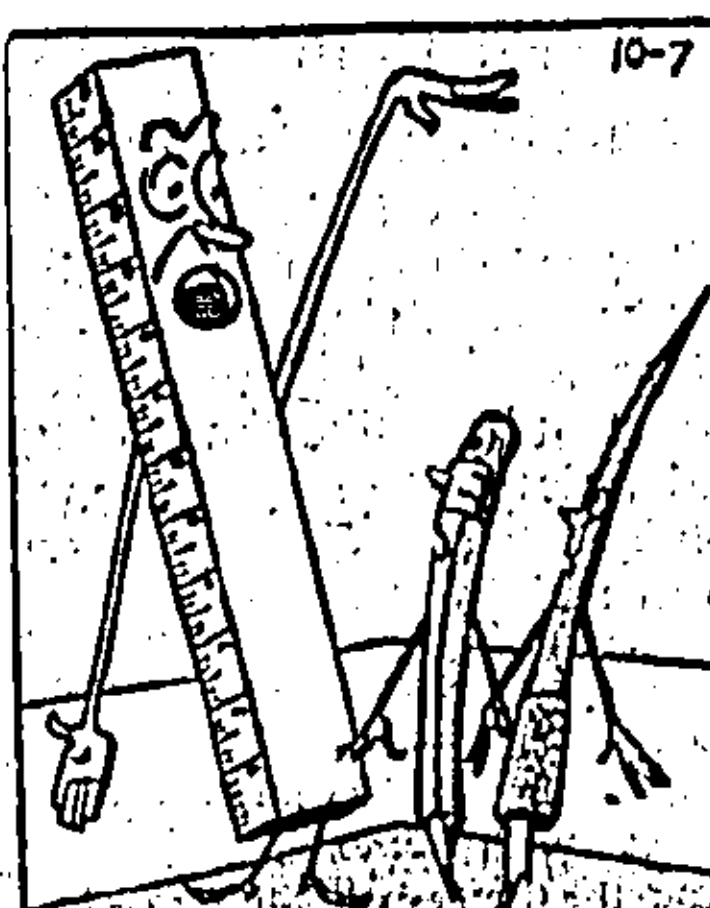
Nothing Wrong

"You'll just be a point," said the Pin. "And there's nothing wrong about that. The best thing about me is my point."

"Except," said the Rubber Band, "you've got a head, even though you don't use it much."

"I declare," said the Pin in an insulted voice, "you're very rude!"

Rubber Band twanged with laughter. "Now take me," it said. "I don't worry much about getting taller or shorter. I can stretch to any size I please. I'm elastic. And what's more, I can



Ruler said he had a cousin who was thirty-six inches tall.

bounce." And with that, it sprang up and down and finally almost fell off the edge of the desk, except that the Ruler quickly pushed it back and set it on its feet.

"Now, I've got other troubles," the Bottle of Ink said. "I don't get taller. I don't get shorter. I just get less. But on the other hand, I get around a good deal. I'm on dozens and dozens of letters that have travelled from one end of the country to the other. I'm in New York, San Francisco and New Orleans."

Luckiest of All

The only one left was the Book. It laughed good-naturedly. "I guess," it said, in a kind of stuttering voice, "I'm the luckiest of all of us. I don't get bigger. I don't get smaller. I don't get more. I don't get less. All I get is older. For instance, I've been a boy, he read me, too. And now all the children are reading me. Yes, the important thing is not how you look, but how many friends you have."

"We've all got friends," cried the crowd of things on the desk. "That's it," said the Book. "That's what we all have: no friends."

Then Knarf, watching at the edge of the desk, saw the Pen and the Pencil lie down next to the Book. He saw the Pin put its head against the shoulder of the Ink Bottle and the Rubber Band stretched out on the Ruler getting taller or shorter. I can stretch to any size I please. I'm elastic. And what's more, I can

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AGENTS: WILHELMSSEN LINES

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High Scores Feature Of Christmas Football In England

London, Dec. 26.

High scoring again marked the second day's matches in the English soccer league Christmas holiday programme.

On Christmas Day, 61 goals were scored in 16 games and today, Boxing Day, 123 goals came from 34 matches.

Highest scores during the two days were the Third Division side, Carlisle United, with eight against Scunthorpe. They were followed by Tottenham Hotspur in Division I with seven against Middlesbrough, Arsenal (6 at Bolton) and other sides from Preston, Rotherham and Northampton.

Nine goals were scored in a thrilling struggle at Sheffield where West Bromwich Albion strengthened their championship challenge in Division I by beating Sheffield Wednesday 5-4 after trailing 2-4 early in the second half.

Albion were helped by two "own goals" by Sheffield defenders. Their winning goal by centre-forward Allen came three minutes from the end. This win put Albion into second place, one point behind Wolverhampton Wanderers who dropped a home point today to Sunderland after their centre-

half Shorthouse had been injured. The Wolves have 30 points from 23 matches, the Albion 29 from 22 games.

Sheffield's lead Arsenal are also very well placed, being two points behind the leaders with two games in hand.

Though Sheffield United were surprisingly held to a draw at home on Christmas Day, they made no mistake about their second game with Doncaster, and now lead Division II by four points.

No club seems able to halt the triumphant march to promotion of Bristol Rovers in the Southern section of the Third Division. They won 1-0 on Queen's Park Rangers ground today, their 18th successive game, without defeat.

Oldham and Grimsby Town continued their see-saw fight at the top of the Northern section. Today Oldham regained top place with a victory over Mansfield.

THE RESULTS

Following were the results of Association Football matches played today:

Division I	
Villa	3 Charlton
Derby	3 Portsmouth
Liverpool	1 Burnley
Manchester U.	2 Blackpool
Sheff. Wed.	5 Man. City
West Ham	1 Bolton
Stoke	1 Chelsea
Wolves	1 Sunderland
Division II	
Barnsley	0 Brentford
Doncaster	0 Sheffield U.
Derby	0 Southampton
Luton	1 Everton
Sheff. U.	1 Leeds
Rotherham	1 Hull
Division III (Northern)	
Barnsley	3 Wrexham
Derby	3 Wrexham
Liverpool	3 Wrexham
Manchester U.	3 Wrexham
Sheff. Wed.	3 Wrexham
West Ham	3 Wrexham
Stoke	3 Wrexham
Wolves	3 Wrexham
Division III (Southern)	
Aldershot	4 Coventry
Brighton	4 Hove Albion
Newport City	0 Portsmouth
Southampton	0 Portsmouth
Wrexham	0 Portsmouth
Wolves	0 Portsmouth
Wrexham	0 Portsmouth
Wolves	0 Portsmouth

Mourning In Sports Centre

Vienna, Dec. 26.
Boxing Day dances and other celebrations for today were cancelled in the winter sports centres of Vorarlberg Province in mourning for the 24 who perished when a winter sports bus plunged into the River Alsenz last Monday.

Eight of the British holiday makers killed were buried today, five of them at Bludenz.

The three New Zealand girls who were killed were buried at Langen, in the tiny parish church yard.

The five bodies were carried through the streets of Bludenz on horse-drawn sledges, covered with wreaths and flowers from local people and winter sports residents and sent from England.

People came to the funeral from all parts of Vorarlberg Province, some on skis over the mountains. The four Dutch and three French and three German dead are all to be sent to their respective homelands for burial.

The police doctor who held a post-mortem examination of the victims stated today that the cause of death was due to drowning.

All the baggage of the passengers, most of which was in the river bed underneath the bus, has been recovered.

Reuter.

Champion Sinking Inquiry

Beirut, Dec. 26.
A Lebanese court today opened an official inquiry into the loss of the French liner "Champion", which grounded and broke on a sandbank off the coast here.

Sailors about to return to France were held back by the judge.

Meanwhile the liner has settled still more deeply on the sand and heeled completely on the side. The storm continued unabated today preventing any further approach to the wreck and the beach was deserted, except for a tank in which French investigators spent the day with the ship's master, Captain Bourde, examining the circumstances of the wreck.

A Requiem Mass was celebrated in the Capucin Church here today for the souls of those who perished in the disaster. Representatives of the Lebanese Government and members of the Diplomatic Corps attended.

Reuter.

INTERNATIONAL SOFTBALL

China eliminated Portugal 3-0 in a first round match of the International Softball Series yesterday.

Pakistan beat a weak Great Britain team 2-2.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



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"Read to him till he gets tired! You'll know when—he'll want to wrestle you for an hour or so before he goes to bed!"

Churchill, Bevan Men Of Year In British Politics

London, Dec. 27.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill and left-wing leader Aneurin Bevan were the men of the year in 1952 British politics.

The 78-year-old Conservative leader signalled his return to "power" by tackling and arresting an economic crisis which threatened to bring the country to bankruptcy.

Mr Bevan in advocating a rearmament slow-down, which ironically has since become the policy of Mr Churchill's Government, produced the biggest split in the Labour Party.

The Labour clash increased the Welsh left-winger's following but it caused the party to lose ground with the electorate and boosted the prestige of the Conservatives.

Mr Churchill's position, now solidly strong for him to feel confident his Government can run its full term to 1955.

The Prime Minister can face 1953 with much less anxiety than was possible 12 months ago when his Government, newly in power, was forced to "devise emergency measures to close a dangerous gap in Britain's balance of overseas payments."

At one point this reached the rate of £700,000,000 a year. Today the country has balanced her accounts with the non-Sterling world and a modest surplus is expected when the year ends.

Reuter.

CHRISTMAS DAY RESULTS

London, Dec. 25.
Spring-like weather on Christmas Day helped to produce some equally surprising results in the small soccer programme when 16 English and one Scottish games were played in the League programme.

The second-half of several games produced a rush of goals and Tottenham Hotspur netted six after the interval, while Arsenal won a thrilling away battle by 6-4, after leading by 2-1 at half-time, to which time play had not suggested the goal reveal which followed. There might have been another, but Bolton missed a penalty.

Carlisle gained the biggest win in their history, when they placed the Scunthorpe net eight times. Whitehouse claiming five which equalled the club's individual record.

League positions did not materially change but Grimsby, by taking a point from a home game with Chesterfield, resumed the leadership in the Northern section of Division III.

Results of football matches played today:

Division I: Arsenal 2, Bolton 0; Tottenham 6, Scunthorpe 0; Liverpool 1, Burnley 0; Manchester U. 2, Blackpool 0; West Ham 1, Bolton 0; Stoke 1, Chelsea 0; Wolves 1, Sunderland 0.

Division II: Barnsley 0, Brentford 0; Doncaster 0, Sheffield U. 0; Derby 0, Southampton 0; Luton 1, Everton 0; Sheff. U. 1, Leeds 0; Rotherham 1, Hull 0.

Division III (Northern): Barnsley 3, Wrexham 0; Derby 3, Wrexham 0; Liverpool 3, Wrexham 0; Manchester U. 3, Wrexham 0; Sheff. Wed. 3, Wrexham 0; West Ham 3, Wrexham 0; Stoke 3, Wrexham 0; Wolves 3, Wrexham 0.

Division III (Southern): Aldershot 4, Coventry 0; Brighton 4, Hove Albion 0; Newport City 0, Portsmouth 0; Southampton 0, Portsmouth 0; Wrexham 0, Portsmouth 0; Wolves 0, Portsmouth 0.

China Beats England 4-1 By "SPIV"

China beat England by four goals to one at the Club ground yesterday in the annual International Soccer Series to qualify for the final against Scotland who received a walk-over from the Ireland XI the previous day.

Although the China side fielded two substitutes in Hung Hing-yuk at centre-half and King Lok-sung at inside-left in place of Ko Po-kung and Yue Cheuk-yin, they were vastly superior in ball-control and combination.

The England XI made up for their lack of technique with a great fighting spirit and, although three goals down at the interval and playing with only 10 men for the whole of the second half, did well to keep the final score down to only 4-1.

China opened the scoring in the 16th minute of the first half. A long cross from the left saw Lee Yuk-ink just managing to reach to the ball and back-kick it over goal-keeper Deacon who was caught half-way out of the goalmouth.

Six minutes later King Lok-sung received a through pass and made his way right up to the goalmouth but mislaid in his starting shot.

Still, however, in possession of the ball, he tipped it across to Ho Ying-tun who sent in a low cross drive past the outstretched hands of Deacon to put China up by two goals.

England's goal

Ten minutes before the interval a good, short-passing movement by Lee Tak-fai and Tang Sum on the left sent Lee Yuk-tak through, with a clear run ending in a neat tap by Lee into the net. China led by 3-0 at the interval.

Sixteen minutes after the resumption Lee Yuk-tak converted a good pass from Lee Tak-fai with a low half-volley drive to increase China's lead to 4-0.

England scored their only goal two minutes later when Gregory, who played a fine game throughout at left-half, swerved the ball to the right. Gardner worked it up and tapped forward to Osborne whose first-dive was stopped by Cheung Koon-hing, but Moss followed up and slammed the ball into the net.

THE TEAMS
China: Cheung Koon-hing; Hau Yung-sung, Chan Ka-sui; Tang Sum, Hung Hing-yuk, Tong Sheung, Ho Ying-tun, Lee Yuk-tak, Lee Tak-fai, King Lok-sung, Hau Ching-to, England: Deacon, Armstrong, Bamicle, Jones, Andrews, Gregory, Hunt, Gardner, Moss, Marsden, Osborne.

ONLY TWO
Though the bigger figure will not be attainable in the first year, the total built will be 35,000 more than were constructed in the last year of the Labour Government.

In the context of great world issues this may seem a relatively modest achievement but housing is after the cost of living possibly the most vital domestic problem and the Conservatives regard their 300,000 target as an election pledge that must be redeemed.

The first year of Conservative Government has produced only two outstandingly controversial measures. These are the bills to denationalise transport and the iron and steel industries transferred to public ownership by Labour in 1947 and 1951, respectively. They are now going through the Parliamentary mill.

Relatively few major measures are expected between now and the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth in June, an event involving much preparatory work for Mr Churchill and his Cabinet.

Reuter.

Germany's Debt To The West

Bonn, Dec. 27.
West German President Theodor Heuss today told the Allied High Commissioners that West Germany owed her speedy reconstruction to the Western Allies.

In a telegram to the Allied High Commissioners, he said the Germans were ready to co-operate with all free people in economic, political and cultural affairs to promote a united Europe and to work for a German State re-united in peace and freedom within a free and united Europe.

Reuter.

Del Bello Loses To Ampon

Manila, Dec. 26.
The Italian Davis Cup team made their first appearance against the Philippines' foremost tennis players this afternoon in the opening matches of a three-day Italy-Philippines invitational series here.

Francisco Gardini, Italy's singles champion, beat Raymond Deyo, second ranking player of the Philippines, 7-5, 8-6, 6-1 in the first official match of the series.

Felice Ampon, the Filipino champion, defeated Roberto del Bello, second in Italy's singles rating, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2, 10-8.

In exhibition matches played earlier, Marcello del Bello drew with Alejandro Saranguio 6-3, 3-6.

In the other exhibition match, Gianni Cucelli defeated Johnny Jose 6-4, 6-3.

Reuter.

Italy's Martina Bologna won the women's singles international Christmas tournament at Turo Tennis Club today, defeating the Spaniard, Maria Josefa del Riva 6-2, 10-8.

But her countryman, young Giuseppe Merlo, was defeated in the men's singles by French-Pole, Stanislaw Skoneczny, 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4 in a full test of resistance.

Britain's Patricia Ward teamed with Skoneczny to defeat Spaniard Alicia Guri and Yugoslav exile Milan Branovich 6-3, 2-6, 8-4.

In the men's doubles Merlo and Skoneczny beat Branovich and Skoneczny 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-7.

In the final match of the seven-day tournament, Miss Ward and Spaniard Mercedes Bologna defeated Signora Bologna and Italian champion Sylvia Lazzerini 6-7, 6-9, 6-4.

Reuter.



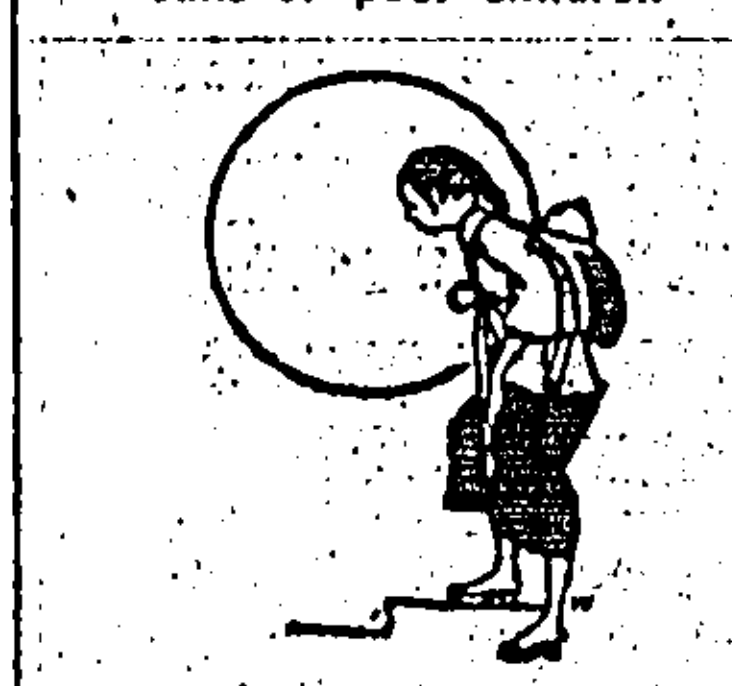
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